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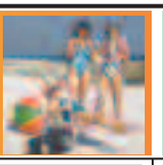
THURSDAY, JULY 18TH, 2013

CHILDREN'S CHOICES AND SCHOOL'S OUT INSPIRATION.... See page 21



RED ARROWS AT CIVIC SUNDAY! Page 6

CHILDREN FALL FOR ELMER Page 4

DOUBLE DUTCH AT ROTARY Page 3

Cowbridge could lose full time fire station under review proposals

COWBRIDGE could lose all its full time firefighters – under proposals put forward in a review of south Wales' fire cover.

The news confirms fears expressed in recent months in the letters page of The GEM.

Under the new proposals, which still have to be put out for consultation, any full-time firefighters at Cowbridge would be moved elsewhere.

Calls would then be answered by a team of 'on-call' firefighters.

The South Wales Fire Service, in its report, argues that the number of emergencies in the area has fallen away in recent years, for a variety of reasons. In the report it says "*when there is an emergency, another fire engine from a different fire station usually gets there first.*"

The issue of on-call firefighters has provoked negative comment and protests in the past from people in Cowbridge, who argued that traffic conditions at certain times of the day meant that on call firefighters would have great difficulty getting to the station in time when responding to an emergency.

(For more details on the proposed changes, see page 13).

The 'Big Toddle' for Barnardo's!

ABOVE RIGHT: The annual 'Big Toddle' in aid of Barnardo's Cymru is a fixture in the calendar at Y Bont Faen Primary School these days. The nursery school pupils went on a long 'toddle' in the morning, while the reception pupils (pictured) did their bit in the afternoon!

Physic Garden launch for Marie Curie

A NEW group, aiming to raise funds for Marie Curie, is kicking off with a launch party next Thursday (July 25) in the Cowbridge Physic Garden.

A spokeswoman urged: "Buy a ticket and come along to the Physic Garden between 6.30pm and 8.30pm to meet the newly-formed Marie Curie Cowbridge fundraising group, and find out more about what they will be doing in the future to support the Marie Curie hospice in Penarth.

"If anyone is interested in joining the group, this would be a good opportunity to meet everyone as well.

"Canapés and a glass of champagne will be included in the ticket price of £10 and tickets are available to buy from Xantippe and Davies's the Newsagent."

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Readers' Letters

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We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, DON JOHN, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews. co.uk

'Wales always at the end of the queue!'

WE are losing a number of perfectly useable buildings on the Bryneithin residential home and the St Cyres School sites in Dinas Powys, which is a scandalous waste of resources.

With a bit of effort, these buildings can be utilised for the community. The excuse of security and maintenance costs is a smokescreen.

Did we attempt to provide cheap security by means of free housing to a suitable 'tenant', in exchange for daily checks on these buildings? This system has worked in other areas of the UK, why not here?

The St Cyres School site, in particular, would be ideal as a centre for sporting excellence in the Vale, which could also serve Cardiff. Is anyone in Sport Wales reading this?

The suggestion, which I put forward to cabinet, was ignored, but in cost/benefit terms, it would be money well spent and a fitting legacy to the London Olympics, which has provided even more facilities to the south-east of England – but how did Wales benefit?

Shortly, we will be hearing more talk of transferring our water to the south-east of England, as we have 'more than we need'.

...Perhaps we can get high-paid jobs, much-needed inward investment, free Severn bridge tolls, etc... in return?

Mrs Thatcher ensured that we did not get any Japanese car plant investment in Wales; but it doesn't matter if the Government is blue, red or yellow – the outcome for Wales is the same.

...We are always at the end of the queue.

Chris Williams
Dinas Powys (*Vale of Glamorgan Councillor*)

'Yes, money is tight, but you have to get the priorities right'

IN response to a letter on July 4 by Mr G Smith, Llantwit Major, I wish to address his questions.

He is quite right to point out that we are in difficult financial circumstances, having inherited an extremely challenging financial settlement following 13 years of Labour Government in Westminster.

Readers will recall the final note left by Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Liam Byrne, as his Labour Government left office in 2010, in which he admitted just how bad things had become: "I'm afraid there's no money left", was his now infamous parting shot.

Whilst it may be tiresome hearing this mantra again and again, the position the UK Coalition has found itself in has left the Government with no choice but to prioritise and to get the public finances back in order.

That's the point I have been trying to make – no matter how tight the purse strings get, you have to have your priorities right.

Currently, the young, the elderly, poor and vulnerable are being isolated, particularly in rural areas like the Vale, by the Welsh Government's savage cuts to the grant for bus operators.

This is the same Welsh Government which is currently pushing through a sustainable travel bill in the Assembly, whilst their fiscal policy is ultimately denying rural residents viable transport routes.

My final point relates to the funding of local authorities, an issue my colleague Alun Cairns MP raised last week.

If the Vale Council was funded in the same way as its neighbours in Cardiff and RCT, then there would be more that could be done locally to offset these damaging cuts.

Unfortunately, residents are suffering from both a discriminatory funding system at Welsh Government level, and a local Labour council that shows no signs of being willing to reassess its priorities and properly support local bus routes.

Andrew RT Davies AM
South Wales Central Region
(Leader of the Welsh Conservatives)

'Nothing sporting about injustice'

SPORTING injustice, the very word 'sporting' in this case makes me want to cringe, and as one who on age alone could qualify for the organisation known laughingly as the FAW – guardians of Welsh football.

These are people who through manipulation of their own rules, denied the senior teams of Barry Town and Llanelli and their thriving academies opportunities in the sport they love.

Someone, somewhere has to bring democracy back into the game.

I say all this with great respect to all our participating teams this year and I wish them all the best of luck and hope they win for Wales.

To see so many young people all over Wales so concerned via social media about what's right and proper lifts my heart, as does the gargantuan efforts of all at the wonderful family – for that's what they regard themselves – at Barry Town.

To deny the children of two thriving communities the chance to enhance their future, is nothing short of despicable.

I hope and pray that the utmost pressure is exerted on the FAW.

Walter Cronk,
Barry

Election battle starting early

THE Vale MP, Alun Cairns, has started his 2015 election campaign very early by attacking Chris Elmore, the Labour party candidate for the Vale.

Mr Cairns states that Chris Elmore was involved in plans to close three local schools and that he has links with the GMB and Unison.

Perhaps some of us prefer links to trade unions, as opposed to links with people who give millions of pounds to the Conservative party.

Mr Cairns is a loyal Conservative member of the coalition Government and supports, and is in favour of the £1.7 billion funding cut imposed on the Welsh people.

He has written in support of the bedroom tax.

Like all Conservative politicians, he ignores the fact that the number of people using food banks has tripled to over 150,000 between April 1 and June 30, up from 50,000 in the same period last year.

Charities say that welfare cuts are to blame for the increase. Also, the already rich high-earners have been given a tax cut. Mr Cairns didn't disagree with or vote against any of these measures.

Welfare reform is needed, but why does he support policies in which the most vulnerable of his constituents are being penalised?

G Smith,
Llantwit Major.

'Get your £1 ready at the airport!'

ALTHOUGH I live in Rhoose, I am not a frequent visitor to Cardiff Airport, but I felt I had to warn people who did not know that they have to pay to get out of the airport, after dropping people off for their flights.

On Monday last, I was taking my friends to catch a plane (two of them had been dropped off at the airport with their cases), and I was to drive the other friend to meet them.

He told me that he had to pay £1 to get out of the airport, which I must admit I didn't believe. However, it was a good job that he left me the £1, as I think I may have been prosecuted for not paying as I didn't take my purse with me.

I cannot believe that I dropped him off, which took two minutes – I didn't need to go in the car park.

When I got to the barrier, I was told to pay this pound. I have told several people and they were all surprised to hear this.

So to everyone who takes anyone to the airport, please take money with you, as they will charge you for dropping people off there.

Diane Rees,
Rhoose.

'Step up the beach patrols in the Vale'

AS a councillor on Barry Town Council, who has supported both the Rhondda and Rhoose Lifeguards in patrolling Whitmore Bay, I was concerned that on visiting Barry Island only the central area of the beach was covered.

I always believed that the whole beach was covered, especially considering how busy the beach was on that day.

Now is the time to ensure that the beaches in the area are fully covered in future, and the coastal councils need to be involved in future arrangements, to avoid any further tragic incidents.

Coun Karl Kuhnell,
Castleland ward,
Barry Town Council.

'EC: Let's get out now'

SO the people of Wales, especially in the Rhondda, have made their voices heard by stating that they would vote to leave the corrupt institution we call the EU.

I think they are now singing the same tune as most of the people of the UK.

It's a pity that most of our politicians here in Cardiff and Westminster didn't take any notice.We have First Minister Carwyn Jones saying he thinks we should stay in the EU, but we haven't been given one good reason why we should.

The EU has turned into one massive interfering, undemocratic, dictatorship.

Let's get out now, not in 2017.

DJ Radford,
Barry.

'No to political jiggery-pokery'

THE Unite Union's involvement in the Labour Party selection process at Falkirk publicly exposes a wider problem which, I suspect, is not just confined to the Labour Party.

I have often wondered how this behaviour is tolerated; even the Labour leader, Ed Milliband, denounced the events as 'shabby practices', but this seems not to be against party rules.

Stuffing poorly-attended local branch selection meetings with friends and family is also not against any rules, but it can have a demoralising impact on members.

I know in Labour Party branches there are many good members who would make excellent councillors, but who are stopped by this process... myself being one of them.

Selection in a safe seat usually results in election to an often lucrative political career, with handsome remuneration from our taxes. Jiggery-pokery when selecting candidates should be stopped.

Party power brokers appear to thrive on other hard-working members who are committed to some unclear ideology, filling envelopes, delivering leaflets, waving placards and helping the re-election of the same, or favoured, individual.

Keith Lewis,
Barry.

'WELSH NHS MUST IMPROVE'

AFTER visiting a relative in intensive care at the UHW, I was totally shocked to learn that they were unacceptably short staffed there.

In fact, I overheard one of the nurses (who are doing an amazing job under these circumstances) saying she was going to write an incident report about it.

Now I am aware of this problem, I must ask, just what is going on with our NHS in Wales?

It is now time the Welsh Labour-run Assembly Government gave NHS funding a greater priority.

It is really wrong that our NHS staff cannot give patients the care they should be getting, due to staff shortages?

Furthermore, if this is allowed to continue, it is bound to lead to complications.

When I asked staff about this matter, they replied that they were not allowed to talk about it.

So, I hope the unions, the board and the WAG will now urgently do something.

Coun Richard Bertin,
(Independent,
Vale of Glamorgan Council)

*•Email your letters to The Editor, Don John, at **gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk** including FULL NAME, ADDRESS and TELEPHONE NUMBER*

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL JULY 25)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
18 Thur	01.57	8.2	14.33	8.1
19 Fri	03.07	8.1	15.52	8.3
20 Sat	04.25	8.5	17.01	8.9
21 Sun	05.29	9.1	18.02	9.5
22 Mon	06.29	9.7	18.53	10.1
23 Tues	07.23	10.1	19.48	10.4
24 Wed	08.12	10.3	20.34	10.5
25 Thur	08.56	10.2	21.22	10.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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£10,576 WINDFALL FOR CHARITIES...

PICTURED: back row, Dr Mahendra Patel from the British Heart Foundation, Martin Chappellow of the RNLI, Terry Singh of the RSPCA. Front row: Bev Johnson of Alzheimer's Society, and Brian Curran of Marie Curie Cancer Care.

CHARITIES nominated by Cowbridge residents have received £10,576 from the Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation.

It is celebrating reaching a record £5million shared between more than 15,000 charities across the UK.

Spokeswoman Catherine Walker said: "Since the foundation was created in 1999, it has been a large source of all charitable giving made by the society's Cowbridge branch on the High Street.

"In the past 12 month, charities such as Ty Hafan Children's Hospice, Marie Curie Cancer Care and Cowbridge and District Museum Trust have all received a donation."

Borrowers and savers with the society are encouraged to nominate causes to receive support from the foundation, with 90 per cent of applications being referred by members. The rest come directly from the charities themselves.

Jon Tucker, manager of Yorkshire Building Society's Cowbridge branch said: "We are absolutely delighted that Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation, thanks to the support of members of the public in Cowbridge, has managed to reach this £5 million milestone.

"We are especially pleased to see that a fantastic £10,576 has been donated to charities in our locality which has benefited so many people within our local community."

Daniel brings message from Africa for the young people of Wales

Report by TIM CHAPMAN

A MAN from Zimbabwe is teaching young people in Cowbridge and Bridgend about the difficulties of providing good health care to people in parts of Africa.

Daniel Nadzo (41) this week visited Cowbridge Comprehensive School, and is due to visit schools in Bridgend soon.

Although he now lives in south Wales and spends part of his time as a web designer, he has not forgotten his homeland.

Daniel represents the River Africa charity, which seeks to improve health provision for people in Africa.

He told The GEM: "We are involved in the creation of a hospital in the lower veldt of Zimbabwe at Guruve, a district that does not currently have one.

"We already have permission to build it there."

Another project is providing a mobile clinic – and Daniel is hoping a local company might be able to donate a 4 x 4 vehicle that would help health workers travel around the testing terrain of Zimbabwe.

"The current vehicle was manufactured in 1994 and has problems. I'm hoping to ship a more up-to-date 4 x 4 to Namibia and drive it down to Zimbabwe."

Part of Daniel's message in schools is that motivated young people can visit countries such as Zimbabwe, Namibia and Malawi and help in local projects that are related to their studies – areas of development such as health, construction or teaching.

"They can get 70 points towards their university application and it looks good on their CV," he emphasised.

"It gives them a taste of the real world and demonstrates that they have the courage to make a difference.

"When people go out to these areas, it makes the people feel valued that others have come to help."

He added: "From its inception River Africa has been run by unpaid Welsh Volunteers, and will continue to be run by volunteers for its lifetime."

Schools and other organisations who are interested to hear about River Africa's work can contact Daniel via email at: daniel@riverafrica.org.

For more information on River Africa, go to www.riverafrica.org.

ABOVE: Daniel Nadzo is giving talks to young people in local schools and explaining about the sorts of projects they can get involved in if they travel to parts of Africa.

The Dutch Consul doubles up as Rotary president!

***ONZE nieuwe President van Rotary is de Nederlandse Vise-Consul...* or, in English, our new president of Cowbridge Rotary Club is also the Dutch Vice-Consul!**

Rotary International really is a huge international charity, with branches in every continent, and Cowbridge Rotary Club has really taken on board the worldwide concept when Nick Boekstra took over from Andrew Lane as president at the beginning of July.

Nick, who lives with his wife Ann in Llanblethian, will be combining his duties in the club with his day job, the Dutch Vice-Consul, based at Sam Smith Travel in Cowbridge High Street.

ABOVE: The official hand-over!

"It's a very active club," said Nick, "so there'll be lots of opportunities in the coming months to engage with the community of Cowbridge.

"We'll be carrying on with things like the car boot sales, the fun walk, the annual quiz, Santa's Sleigh and the street collections; but we've also had some different ideas for fundraising for charity, especially from some of our newer members.

"I'm really looking forward to this year ahead."

The next car boot sale is on July 14, in the town hall car park).

AB

River bank clean-up

A CLEAN-UP of the river through the centre of Cowbridge has been organised for early next month.

The chirman of the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade, Alun John, said:"The chamber, together with the Cowbridge Guide and with help from Creative Rural Communities and Natural Resources Wales, has arranged the event, and the Vale Council will have people on hand to take away the runnish collected.

"Equipment for the clean-up will be provided.

"Anyone interested can call into Arthur John in the High Street for further details and to register. The clean-up will start at 9am on Sunday, August 4."

£500 raised for the Mayor's charities

THE Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council Coun Gwen Baty held a successful sparkling strawberry tea in the Lesser town hall on Saturday July 13 when £500 was raised for her chosen charities Marie Curie and Macmillan.

All the strawberries were donated by local Cowbridge shops Strawberry Fields, Filco, Waitrose, Tesco and Spar.

Other donations came from the mayor's family and friends. Thanks to all the town hall staff for their assistance with this successful event. The next fundraising event is the monthly coffee morning in the Mayor's parlour on the first Saturday in the month, September 7 (10am –12 noon). There is not one in August.

Captivating talk on the American Indian

SOUTHERNDOWN WI

A LOUD cheer was heard in St Brides Church Hall at the start of the July meeting of Southerndown WI as the speaker appeared from an adjoining room dressed in the costume of a North American Indian, complete with full headdress.

Vernon Edwards then gave a captivating talk on the history of the North American Indian, a subject about which he is not only very knowledgeable, but is also passionate.

He explained how they arrived on the continent during the ice age, on foot from what is now Russia, and he took us through a detailed history of their life and how it changed with the arrival of the 'white man'.

As the white man moved west, their numbers were reduced from over a million to a mere 20,000, through the introduction of 'white man's illnesses', such as the common cold, and through battles and wars.

We learnt how the tribes, whose names are familiar to us, formed as bands and how the arrival of the horse from the south revolutionised their lives.

Of particular interest to the group was how women were treated and their role within the family groups and tribes. Could you put up a teepee in 20 minutes, as was expected of an Indian wife?

After several questions, Vernon was eventually allowed to leave. Our president, Meryl, then completed the usual business of the meeting and the group was provided with the programme for the year until May 2014.

A summary of events taking place was also provided. Members should note, however, that the tea and croquet event on August 16 will start at 2pm and NOT as shown on the summary.

Our next formal meeting will take place on September 12 at 7.15pm, when we will be holding a social evening; new members welcome.

PM

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Sunny day helps the Llanblethian barbecue go with a real swing

Photographs by **MIKE WILCOCK**

The Llanblethian Community Group were "delighted" with the fabulous weather and the attendance at a fete and the recent barbecue

The two events each attracted more than 100 people who enjoyed the music and games – and the community spirit.

Spokesman Mike Bailey said: "A huge vote of thanks goes to all the coordinating group especially, Beverly Tonkin, Rebecca Exley and Arthur O'Leary who bore the brunt of the organisation.

"Ashley and Angela Cooper kindly let us use their gazebo, and Creative Rural Communities provided three more free of charge.

"During the fete, we were regaled by some excellent 'a cappella' singing by 'Old Spice' barbershop quartet.

"At the barbecue, 'Shenanigans' a local Celtic band, shared the music with 'Old Spice' at the barbecue and both provided their services for free.

"Finally, a massive thank you to John and Carole Sherratt, who provided us with the necessary electricity.

"The fete was a wonderful mix of fun for the children, and a great way for the adults to meet.

"It all spilled over into the Cross Inn for a prefect end to the day.

"Let's be sure to do it again next year."

"A brilliant day with great organisation and dedication from all. It was good fun."

Arthur O'Leary of the Cross Inn commented: "It was a total sell out and a great pleasure to meet so many villagers."

GARDEN PARTY, AND PLAYING GOOSEBERRY!

THREE members of Penllyn and District WI attended the Federation garden party in Margam Park on June 19; the weather was glorious and it was a lovely occasion, and also a chance to meet members from other WIs.

Our craft evening was on the same day, and members were busy finishing off show entry items.

On the evening of June 25, members went fruit-picking at Henrewennol, although due to poor weather earlier in the year, there were not many strawberries ready, but there was an excellent crop of gooseberries, and it was very pleasant, picking and chatting, in the evening sunshine.

The members' meeting on July 2 was opened by president, Novello Peters. She introduced Melanie Wager, who gave us a very enlightening talk about the charity Kidney Wales, and her experiences as a kidney transplant patient – the problems and difficulties faced by patients on dialysis. The speaker was thanked for her fascinating talk by vice-president, Rhiannon Cory.

The winners of the raffle and the competition were announced, and members were able to peruse the bookstall.

Information was given regarding various forthcoming local and federation events. Tickets ordered for the carol festival in December were distributed. Arrangements for the Glamorgan Federation WI Show, on July 27 were discussed.

The craft evening will be on July 24, and members will be doing wineglass flower arrangements.

There will be no meeting in August, and the next meeting will be on September 3 at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. Audrey Griffiths will be talking about 'Most Peculiar People' .

New members are always warmly welcomed; we meet on the first Tuesday in every month, at 7.30pm in Penllyn Village Hall. For further information, contact Novello (01656 674191) or Marjorie (01656 647115).

MN

Memories of a ballet dancer

MERTHYR MAWR WI NEWS

MERTHYR MAWR WI president, Margaret Batten, welcomed speaker, Chris Seaman, at the July meeting, who gave a delightful talk about her life as a ballet dancer.

Having trained at the Royal Ballet school, she joined Covent Garden. She spoke about her role as a dancer in operas such as The Flying Dutchman, Traviata and Don Carlos and how wonderful and privileged it had been to be part of productions with artistes like Joan Sutherland, Pavarotti and Nureyev.

She left the Opera Ballet and went to join a ballet company in Germany, where she met her husband. Using photographs to illustrate her journey, she gave a wonderful picture of her life as a ballet dancer, and her love and passion for dance.

During the business part of the meeting, the president thanked members who had attended the link meeting hosted by Southerndown WI. It had been an entertaining evening of poetry and song.

The annual council meeting had been well attended. Adam Henson of Countryfile had proved to be an inspiring speaker and the audience gave him a standing ovation.

The next meeting will be the summer dinner on Wednesday, August 7, in Ewenny Community Hall.

St Athan man burgled his friend's home

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

WHILE a woman was serving a prison sentence, a friend burgled her unoccupied home, Cardiff Crown Court has been told.

Andrew Spurway (31) of Shackleton Close, St Athan, admitted a charge of burglary. He was jailed for 14 months, suspended for two years, made subject to a supervision order for a year and ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work, and to pay a victim surcharge of £100.

Judge Rhys Rowlands said Spurway targeted the home of a friend and committed a serious and mean offence.

"He knew exactly where she was at the time."

He said he had been persuaded to draw back from passing immediate prison sentence.

Prosecutor Ruth Smith said Spurway burgled the home in Barry, and stole an LCD television.

At the time, the occupier, Tressa Williams, was in prison.

While he was in the house, Spurway handled a number of letters and the police were successful in finding Spurway's fingerprints on them.

When arrested, Spurway admitted he knew where the woman was and said he had previously stayed at the house.

He was said to have previous convictions for burglary and one for robbery.

His solicitor, Adam Sharpe, said: "When this happened, his lifestyle was chaotic. It was not sophisticated, and at the time he was effectively homeless."

Eve wins a Rotary award at Llangan

AT a special assembly in Llangan on Thursday July 11, the school's Rotary Young Citizen Award was presented to Eve Mordecai, by Dr Peter Moug, chairman of the youth committee of the Rotary Club of Cowbridge.

The award recognises responsible behaviour, helpfulness and a concern for others and was made on the recommendation of the headteacher Steve Williams and the teaching staff.

Judging by the applause from the audience, Eve was a very popular and deserving winner.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Leavers' concert

MY word, what a gifted team of entertainers Llangan School has!

As an invited guest, I thoroughly enjoyed the leavers' concert hosted by two year-6 pupils, William O'Connor and Iestyn Galton.

The theme was 'I'm a year-6, get me out of here!' There was singing, dancing, and an excellent display of gymnastics.

Pictures of the performing boys and girls as they were when toddlers appeared on screen, much to the amusement of everyone. A thoroughly enjoyable morning!

During my frequent visits to the school, I have seen the progress made as children in the nursery and infants classes grow into responsible young adults.

To those children leaving, who will continue their education at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, all the very best.

Once again, my thanks to headteacher Steve Williams and all the staff at Llangan School for the welcome I receive on my visits.

THE Rotary Club Citizen Award has been presented to Eve Mordecai.

Church concert

A CONCERT by the popular Minnesingers, took place in St Canna's Church, Llangan, on Friday, July 12.

Many local people attended and prizes were won by raffle ticket holders. It was a pleasure to see Rev Peter Raikes and Mrs Raikes enjoying their off duty evening!

Children's squeals of delight as... ELMER VISITS COWBRIDGE!

BRAVO to Nanny Lea and Elmer, The Patchwork Elephant, for providing such a delightful storytelling session at the Old Hall, on the hottest day of the year!

With real skill, Nanny Lea soon had her audience, both young and not so young, hanging on her every word and David McKee's wonderful stories gave her plenty of scope to try out her wide range of voices to great effect.

There were squeals of delight when the endearing Elmer made his surprise entrance and Elmer and his minder, both members of Llantwit Major Stage Door, proved to be a big hit with the enthralled youngsters.

Staged by the Cowbridge Book Festival, the event was part of the Cowbridge Community College Open Day and throughout the day visitors had the chance to participate in many play and craft related activities that were organised by tutors of the college.

They also had the opportunity to pick up a college prospectus highlighting the many courses that are pursued at the college throughout the year.

All those families who 'braved' the heat wave were treated to an entertaining day out and thry thoroughly enjoyed getting involved!

SRC

FAMILY 'APPALLED' AT WHAT HAPPENED

Penarth man, 19, escapes jail after supplying drugs

by AJ SICLUNA

POLICE smelled cannabis when they stopped a car in Cardiff, the city's Crown Court has been told.

Inside, in a bag on the back seat, was a quantity of the drug worth £960, said prosecutor David Thomas.

Ashley Jones (19) of Tal-y-Bryn, Penarth, admitted being concerned in the supply of cannabis and possessing it with intent to supply.

Jones, who had no previous convictions, was sentenced to eight months in a young offender institution, suspended for two years, and ordered to carry out 250 hours unpaid work and to pay £250 costs.

Judge Rhys Rowlands told him: "As you will appreciate, this is a serious matter and ordinarily attracts a sentence of some length. Clearly, there was a commercial element.

"You come from a close family and there is hope you will not let them down again."

Mr Thomas said that in November, the police stopped a car driven by Jones in Cowbridge Road West, Ely, Cardiff. They smelled cannabis and discovered the drug on the back seat.

Jones' mobile phone contained text messages indicating he was involved in supplying drugs.

His counsel, Ruth Smith, said he had full-time work as a barman, after which he intended to resume full-time studies.

"He is still very young. Unfortunately, he became involved with cannabis himself and then started offending.

"He supplied to named, known people, to obtain money to buy the drugs himself.

"He comes from a very responsible family, and they have been appalled at what happened. To them, his offending was completely unacceptable."

He said his parents made their feelings very clear to Jones.

"He has great potential, and educational ability. He is also a keen and good golfer who hopes to go to university. He is a productive member of society."

Funeral of Vale farmer

THE funeral of Vale farmer Mike Thomas is being held at Coychurch Crematoriam at 2.45pm today (Thursday, July 18).

Aged 84, he was a former joint-master of the Glamorgan Hunt at the same time as Lady Boothby and was a keen horseman.

He rode in point-to-points and under National Hunt rules from an early age and some point-to-point enthusiasts may associate him with Drinking Session, Romanza and Abbot's Haven.

He rode in races as a youngster and was 54 when he hung up his race-riding boots. When he retired, he put something back into the sport he loved by becoming a steward and a course inspector.

He also officiated at the Royal Welsh and many other shows in England and Ireland, and was also a permit holder (someone who has a permit to train under rules).

Jim Thomas, who rode against him on many occasions, said: "I will always remember him as someone who was involved with horses all his life."

As for myself, I will remember him for his friendly words whenever he saw me at a point-to-point.

BRIAN LEE

All change for the Lions Club

JULY 1 is a significant date in the Lions' calendar when Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club welcome the new president and officers for the following year.

At an informal gathering, outgoing president, Harold Jones, handed over the president's regalia to John Andrew, which includes the infamous blazer, which only sees the light of day at this occasion!

Normally, the outgoing vice president, John Andrew, would perform the same duty to the incoming vice president, John Wordley, but as John W could not attend, a stand-in model consisting of a few pieces of wood with a picture of John W attached was used instead.

This is the first time the club has used this system, which had the advantage of keeping the speeches short!

The club has also changed the way in which its meetings will take place. Formerly, the Lions held two business meetings per month, now been reduced to one, with the other meeting being more of a social event.

Potential members will be able to join in fundraising activities before they attend business meetings, to become more acquainted.

The first chance to help out at an event will be on July 20 at the Precinct in Llantwit Major, where the Lions will be holding a book and DVD sale between 10am and 4pm.

To find out more about the Lions, contact website www.lmanclions.org.uk, by email at info@lmandclions.org.uk , Facebook www.facebook.com/lmandclions, or by phone on 0845 833 6763. **DE**

Air cadets' pain all in a good cause!

RAF Officer Cadets from the Universities of Wales Air Squadron (UWAS), based at MoD St Athan, recently held a charity leg waxing event to raise money for the Search and Rescue Dogs Association (SARDA) Wales.

The girls decided that a sponsored leg wax was the ultimate man challenge, and the guys agreed.

Event organiser, Officer Cadet Helen Mearis said: "I was pleasantly surprised how enthusiastic the boys were about having their legs waxed, but naturally they weren't as enthusiastic as the girls who had come along to do the waxing."

Arianna Hodges and Rebecca Hurney, who are training at Bridgend College in the hair and beauty department, came along with the wax and equipment and were on hand to supervise the event.

One of the men brave enough to take part was Pilot Officer Tom Nation who said: "I had taken part in a waxing event before but to be honest, I forgot just how much it hurts! But the pain is worth it as SARDA is manned solely by volunteers and every penny counts.

"We do a lot of adventure training, which includes time on the mountains, so it is reassuring to know that there are people out there trained to help if the worst was to happen".

Search and Rescue Dogs Association (SARDA) Wales are a specialist search dog section of Mountain Rescue (England and Wales) and is a voluntary organisation that relies on donations. They train air scenting and trailing dogs to search for missing people in mountain, rural and urban locations.

The officer cadets have already raised a substantial amount of money but it's still not too late to get involved. You can show your support by going to www.justgiving.com/sardawales/donate.

Ollie's 5am start to his marathon charity walk

THERE is one 13-year-old boy in the Vale who is hoping that the weather turns cooler by next Saturday – because he has committed himself to an exhausting charity challenge.

Oliver Lewis, a year-8 pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, is planning a 40-mile walk along the Wales Coastal Path on July 21 to raise much-needed funds for Bridgend Athletics Club.

Oliver is a club member and, when he heard that the club needed to raise funds, he was keen to help.

He told The GEM: "I was amazed to hear that Bridgend Athletic Club is the only such club in Wales not to receive any support from its local authority.

"There are so many children, including me and my brother, Fraser, 11, who love training there and who are coached by a team of volunteers who give up time every week to help us.

"If I can raise some money to help them, I'd be delighted."

Oliver will start his walk at around 5am on the steps of the National Assembly building in Cardiff Bay, and he will finish at the club's training centre in Newbridge Fields, Bridgend.

Sections of the coastal path are very taxing, particularly between Llantwit Major and Southerndown – a stretch that Oliver will hit quite late in his day.

"I think the walk will take about 13 hours," said Ollie. "My Dad and I walked around the coast of Guernsey three years ago and it took us over 15 hours but I'm a lot fitter now thanks to all the training I do!"

To sponsor Ollie on his walk, please email him at oliver.lewis@btinternet.com or on 07834 735410.

ABOVE: Oliver Lewis, training at Bridgend Athletic Club.

Cowbridge choir competes at 'Gwyl Fawr Aberteifi'

COR Meibion Y Machlud, the Cowbridge-based male voice choir, was once again lucky enough to enjoy a day of unbroken sunshine when it competed at this year's 'Gwyl Fawr Aberteifi' held in Cardigan's Leisure Centre on Saturday, July 15.

The choristers had been able to witness the success of the Lions in Australia before setting out on the road to Cardigan, and were in good spirits when they arrived for the start of their competition!

They were up against two accomplished choirs, Boys y Castell and Cor Meibion Taf, both of whom were about 50 voices in number.

Two contrasting pieces were selected for the performance not lasting more than ten minutes.

The first of these sung by Cor Meibion Y Machlud, was 'Cytgan y Milwyr' (Soldiers' Chorus) from *Il Travatore* by Verdi.

The adjudicator, Delyth Medi, praised the choir as an enthusiastic group who clearly enjoy singing and gain satisfaction from performing.

The second piece was a folk song '*Wrth Fynd Efo Deio Dywyn*',which had been especially arranged by the choir's conductor, Eric Dafydd.

Once again, the adjudicator found that there was a lovely element to this folk song. She said: "I love your balladic style – way to go!"

Having offered some constructive comments, she concluded that this had been quite a challenging arrangement for the choir's vocal resources.

"You are a happy and contented bunch," she said, a comment that was warmly endorsed by a large and appreciative audience.

"As a small choir of around 20 voices, it was a big task to compete against much larger choirs,"suggested Eric Dafydd.

However, this did not prevent the choir achieving third place and a share of the prize money!

The chairman of the choir, Terry Williams, expressed the hope that the choir would compete in next year's National Eisteddfod in Llanelli, building upon the experience gained from last year's appearance at the National Eisteddfod of Wales in Llandow.

"Should any aspiring choristers be tempted to join our friendly and competitive choir, come along to our next rehearsal which will take place in September.

" I can be contacted by phone (01446 773530) or via e mail, tlandjwilliams@tiscali.co.uk.

"We regularly practice on a Monday evening at Ysgol Iolo Welsh Primary School starting at 7.45pm."

The Cardigan Eisteddfod concluded a busy summer season for the choir including performing in Llandaff Cathedral.

A special event to mark the long service of the choir's former accompanist, Mrs Carol Phillips, was held on July 15.

Richard Kennard

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CIVIC SUNDAY SALUTE BY RED ARROWS

Pictures by
MIKE WILCOCK

THE Cowbridge Civic Service, honouring the new mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Gwen Baty, took place on Sunday, July 14 – complete with a Red Arrows fly past!

The service took place at Holy Cross Parish Church and was followed by a reception at the town hall.

The commanding officer of Cowbridge ATC, Dave Palmer, arranged for the Red Arrows to bring the day to a spectacular climax with a special V-formation fly past trailing dramatic white smoke patterns in the azure sky.

Young gardeners excel in schools competition

THE Llantwit Major Town Council recently held its annual school garden competition, which culminated in a prize-giving ceremony held at the council chamber on Friday, July 12.

This year's competition was judged by the mayor, Coun Keith Geary, his wife and mayoress Coun Mrs Sylvia Geary and deputy mayor Mick Mason.

All the schools taking part were visited by the judging panel earlier this month and Coun Geary told the children and teachers that he had been "very impressed" with the effort made in preparing the gardens. It had also been very difficult to choose the winners.

The competition was split into categories, one for early learning years and the other for older junior school pupils.

The winners of the early learning years' section were Eagleswell School; St Illtyds School were runners-up, and Ysgol Dewi Sant were third. Certificates of commendation were awarded to Gillybeans Playgroup and Llanilltud Fawr School.

The winners of the primary years were Eagleswell School, with Llanilltud Fawr runners-up and St Illtyds School third.

Coun Keith Geary told The GEM that the school garden competition is a 'no-lose' event: "It gets the children outdoors and learning about plants and everyone won a prize and small donation from the Town Council to put towards next year's event.

"I am also grateful to the Llantwit Major Horticultural Society, who kindly donated some bags of compost to schools who asked for it, to assist in their gardens." **TB**

ABOVE: Gillybeans Playgroup members.

ABOVE: Eagleswell pupils.

ABOVE: Ysgol Dewi Sant pupils.

ABOVE: St Illtyds' youngsters.

ABOVE: Pupils from Llanilltud Fawr School.

PENARTH ADVICE

ELUNED PARROTT, regional AM for south Wales central, will be holding an advice surgery on July 19 at Tesco Superstore, Terra Nova Way, Penarth, CF64 1SA between 1pm and 2pm. No appointment is necessary.

HISTORY SOCIETY

RHOOSE and District History Society is hosting a talk by Gerald Beaudette on 'Islands of the Bristol Channel' on Friday, July 26 at 7.30pm in the rear hall of Rhoose Community Centre, Stewart Road.

Tickets at the door £1 adults and 50p per child (under 16).

Welsh Hearts

ENJOY a glass of Prosecco and a three-course meal, coffee and mints, at Welsh Hearts Opera Night 'Puccini and Prosecco' with artists from Welsh National Opera; Penarth Yacht Club, Monday, September 16 at 7pm. *To book, contact fundraising@welsh-hearta.org or 01633 681788/07730944700.*

Vale traders act on under-age alcohol

by PHILIP IRWIN

TRADING standards operations aimed at catching retailers who serve alcohol to under-18s seem to show that traders are being more vigilant.

The most recent 'test purchase' scheme, running from June 2012 to February 2013, found that only 3.75 per cent of traders sold alcohol to an under age buyer.

Out of a total of 160 purchases, only six handed over the alcohol.

The figures represent a big improvement on the previous year, when the percentage was 14 per cent (152 purchases, 14 supplying).

The details were released in a report to the Vale Council's housing and public protection scrutiny committee.

Test purchase exercises have been running for seven years now, the percentage of traders who get caught varies considerably. In 2006/07, the figure was 19 per cent, while in 2008/09, it was just two per cent.

The most recent test purchase scheme shows that Penarth was the most vigilant, with more than 35 purchases, and no contraventions.

In Barry, more than 79 purchases yielded three traders who broke the law.

Of the six contraventions from June 2012 to February 2013, four resulted in fixed penalty notices, while two are subject to further investigation.

MP's praise for Oak Field Primary School progress

ALUN CAIRNS, MP for the Vale, has paid tribute to the governors, teachers and pupils at Oak Field Primary School in Barry following news that the school has been moved out of special measures by Estyn Inspectors.

The MP said: "I would like to offer a personal thank you to Linda Ware, who has been instrumental in her role as chair of the school governors. I know how much time she has personally given to helping to steer the school through a very difficult time.

"My thanks also to Mrs Lynne Bowen-Jones, acting headteacher at the school who has been unstinting in her commitment and passion to improve the school for all the pupils.

"Congratulations to all at Oak Field and I'm sure that based on these strong foundations the school will continue to develop and flourish for many years to come."

VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'It's time to put an end to the *something for nothing* culture'

Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

EARLIER this week, a cap on the maximum benefit that any individual or couple can claim from the state, was rolled out across the country.

The level of the benefit cap has been set at the same level as the average salary of £26,000 a year.

I have personal concerns that this could be too high and will still leave many people on benefits receiving more than many hard working families here in the Vale. An important principle, however, has been established.

In spite of strong opposition, establishing the principle of a benefit cap will send a clear message that choosing a life on benefit is not an option.

We inherited a broken welfare system where a 'something for nothing' culture had developed amongst some people.

This is only one part of benefit reform, but an important element – that no out of work household can claim more than the average working family earns. This is right and fair.

Ending the 'something for nothing' culture in this country is long overdue. We should always be there to support those who need help, but the days of a blank cheque on benefits are over. This cap on benefits is a key part of our plan to fix the welfare system so that it no longer traps people in a cycle of dependency, and is fair for the hardworking taxpayers who pay for it.

Later this year, we will see the roll-out of universal credit. This will ensure that anyone in work will always be better off than if they stayed at home claiming benefits.

Under the current system, there is a series of complex arithmetic to calculate if someone is better off in or out of work. This is wrong.

Surely, the principle of going to work is important in itself, and it cannot be right to end up worse off?

In one of my recent advice surgeries, one local resident who worked part time, showed me that by working an extra hour, they would end up losing some benefits - which will result in them being worse off.

This constituent wanted to do the right thing – go out to work and provide for her family – but felt that the system was against her.

Thankfully, this will change later this year with the universal credit.

Of course, we need to protect and support people who cannot work. The system is changing to establish who needs help to get back to work and who, even with help, will not be able to work.

More changes are still needed. Too many cases end in tribunal, where initial rejections are overturned. The system must be sensitive, but not a soft touch.

In spite of strong opposition from my political opponents, benefit reform is a must and the benefit cap is central to that reform.

We have made a start, but more needs to be done.

Road improvements for Five Mile Lane

Report by TIM CHAPMAN

A MAIN route through the Vale, which has a reputation for being dangerous, is to undergo road improvement work.

Five Mile Lane, a link between Barry and the A48, has large notices at either end of it warning motorists that fatal accidents have taken place in recent years.

Five Mile Lane narrows in a number of places and there are several sharp bends..

The Minister responsible for transport in Wales, Edwina Hart, said that the work was to improve access to the St Athan–Cardiff Airport Enterprise Zone.

South Wales Central Assembly Member Andrew RT Davies, has welcomed the Welsh Government announcement that improvements would be made to Five Mile Lane and the Cardiff Bay link road.

He said: "These developments will clearly improve access and ease congestion and are frankly long overdue.

"Anyone who travels into Cardiff from the east of the city encounters terrible traffic and improving access to the bay and city centre should ease congestion elsewhere as well.

"As a Vale resident, I will now be looking for more detail about how the Minister plans to improve access via Five Mile Lane.

"As a vital thoroughfare linking Barry to the rest of the Vale and the A48, this has long been a congested route."

Mr Davies emphasised that the safety of motorists must be one of the priorities of the work.

"Five Mile Lane is exceptionally narrow, given the volume of traffic it currently serves, and is sadly an accident black-spot.

"I would hope that any improvements would also seek to improve safety and ensure that extra capacity could be handled without compromising the intended improvements."

Mr Davies added: "Obviously, I welcome the publication of the Welsh Government's wish list of transport projects, but the challenge now for Ministers is to work with the UK Government to turn this into action."

HMS Cambria is safe

VALE MP Alun Cairns has welcomed a Commons announcement that the future of *HMS Cambria* in Barry is secure.

Its site was under question as the MoD was reviewing all reserve and cadet bases across the UK.

Mr Cairns said that the Minister for Defence confirmed there will be a Royal Naval reserve presence at Barry as part of its reserve and base review.

The MP understood that *HMS Cambria* will be a base for the reserve forces and that the decision has yet to be taken for the exact location of an additional reserve base site in Cardiff. The changes will take place over the two to three years.

"I'm so pleased that *HMS Cambria* in Barry will be at the heart of the reserve forces in south Wales. This commitment from the Minister secures its future for years to come,"

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Here comes summer fun at St Brides Primary!

LIFE in St Brides Major C/W Primary School is as busy as ever and the children have been enjoying interesting activities.

They have been visited by chef Simon Willows from 'The Rose and Crown' in Porthcawl (Brains Brewery), who has been cooking with the children, making tasty dishes such as Paella, along with desserts including crème brulee.

The children have learned so much from working with a professional chef – there have been some amazing aromas around the school, too!

Reception class and year-1 were recently visited by Cardiff Reptile Centre, when they learned about a whole range of interesting creatures, including snakes, spiders and meerkats.

One of the pupils at the school has won a prize in the 'Designed to Smile' Competition: Catherine Rowe's delightful drawing of the tooth fairy will be published in the British Dental Journal.

She won prizes for herself and £200 for the school council. Well done, Catherine!

All in all, it's been a great term. If you are interested in visiting the school, please contact the Headteacher on 01656 880477. Also, check out the school's new website at www.stbridesprimary.org.uk ***CM***

Catherine Rowe with her wimming entry

Simon Willows gave the pupils cooking tips.

Pre-school is on the move

THE pre-school at Colwinston is moving from the village hall to a purpose-built classroom in St David's Church-in-Wales Primary School.

To celebrate the move, the headteacher of St David's, invited pupils from the pre-school to take part in a race at last Friday's sports day.

The pre-schoolers, many of whom will be starting at the reception class in September, ran a hard-won race in the glorious sunshine and were rewarded with stickers, ice lollies and cake! Pupils will start in the new classroom from the start of term in September and to raise money for the pre-school, there will be a yard sale on Sunday, July 21, from 12pm in the village hall, Colwinston, where all toys and equipment which are not moving to the new premises will be sold off.

There will be many bargains to be had,and staff will be on hand to discuss available places at the pre-school, which serves Cowbridge, Llandow, Llysworney, Corntown, Ewenny and Colwinston.

Katie's 'Tour de Vale' helps out her school

A young Vale girl was not put off by the soaring weekend temperatures – as she tackled a marathon cycle ride to raise funds for her school.

Katie Williams is eight years old and goes to St David's Church-in-Wales School in Colwinston.

Her mother Carrie told The GEM: "Several weeks ago, she came home with the idea of trying to raise money to buy art and craft materials for her school, as stocks were running low.

"After much thought she decided that she would try and cycle 20 miles around the Vale, even though she had never cycled that distance before!"

The ride took place on Saturday, July 13, and the route started at near Llandow and continued to Llanmaes, Boverton, Llantwit Major, Marcross, Wick, Llandow again, and then finished at St David's School, Colwinston.

Carrie said: "It was the hottest day of the year and the ride took her just over three hours. We survived on water, jelly babies and peanut butter sandwiches!".

Mum's Garmin computer recorded the statistics, and Katie covered 20 miles, climbed a total of 748ft, and her average speed when moving was 9.1 mph.

The maximum temperature reached during the ride was 89.6F.

Proud Carrie said: "In total, Katie has raised £153.50p for her school."

ABOVE: Katie Williams with her proud mum Carrie.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Reading challenge

THIS year's summer reading challenge at Cowbridge Library is entitled 'Creepy House', and is open to children between the ages of four to 12.

For more information, contact the library on 01446 773941, or follow the link *www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/libraries*

Councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT First Independents will be holding a surgery at the Old School, Wine Street, Llantwit Major, on Saturday, July 20, from 9.30am until 11.30am.

Residents who have an issue to raise are welcome to attend.

New schemes give vital boost to plan for affordable homes

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by Jane Hutt AM
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

THE need for affordable housing is a priority for the Welsh Government and the announcement I made earlier this year of an extra £20 million to build one and two-bedroomed properties, was well received.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council and local authorities across Wales welcomed the news, as did registered social landlords, such as Newydd Housing Association, who are currently having to wait for the seagulls 'to hatch,' before completing the demolition of the former Magistrates Court, which I was very involved in campaigning to keep here in Barry.

However, it is very good news indeed that Newydd is able to access Welsh Government social housing grant to help build 52 much-needed new homes in the heart of Barry on this key site, contributing to the regeneration of Barry as well as meeting housing need.

It was good to hear the chief executive say that despite the pause for the seagulls, the project will be on time for delivery of these homes as planned!

Housing developments, such as Jacksons Quay and the new Extra Care Centre in Barry, provide affordable homes at a high standard, meeting the Welsh housing quality standard.

Our successful negotiations with the Treasury has resulted in an end to the outdated and expensive housing revenue account subsidy for local authorities, such as the Vale Council, who will be able to access funds to continue the upgrading of their social housing in the county.

This is a positive outcome of intergovernmental negotiations between the Welsh Government and the UK Government, which I have been engaged in as Finance Minister.

We are also supporting a new scheme 'Houses into Homes,' which should see at least 900 units of empty houses brought back into use, with £20m funding of Welsh Government via a loan scheme. The interim evaluation is extremely positive about the scheme so far.

Working very closely with our housing and regeneration Minister, Carl Sargeant AM, I am determined to support him in meeting the Welsh Government's target of delivering 7,500 affordable new homes. Investment in housing is one of our seven key priorities in the Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan. We have taken steps as a Government, to boost investment in affordable housing by more than £400 million.

We are also committing £4 million every year for 30 years to support registered social landlords in generating over £100 million of investment which will finance more than 1,000 affordable homes over a four year period – our new housing bond.

This innovative investment has been recognised outside Wales as an example of Government taking the initiative in partnership with housing providers.

We have a clear commitment and responsibility to boost the provision of affordable housing in Wales. We are also committed to helping people take steps to buy and the Housing Minister is making a statement on housing support this week which includes options for 'shared equity' ownership models.

However, the development of one and two bedroomed properties has been a direct response to the impact of the UK Government's 'Bedroom Tax,' which is having a negative impact on many households as they struggle to meet the costs of higher rents.

There are not enough smaller flats and houses for people to move into if they have been hit by this new tax, and there is deepening concern about the levels of debt that are accruing in many households across Wales.

I have also raised our concerns with the UK Government about the negative impact of this new tax compounded by the new arrangements for payment of housing benefit that does not allow for 'payment direct' to the landlord – which is very difficult for low income families and will adversely impact on social housing providers.

Alongside our support for housing, we are also joining all those who are supporting those in housing need such as Shelter, who run advice services alongside the Citizens Advice Bureaux in the Vale of Glamorgan and we are boosting our support for advice and information services, working with our local authorities to support vulnerable people in

'DEVASTATING NEWS' as recovered body is identified as Hollie

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

A body recovered from the sea near Fontygary on Wednesday, July 10, was identified as the missing 14-year-old, Hollie McClymont.

Hollie had last been seen in the water at Whitmore Bay on Sunday afternoon, July 7. She was on holiday in south Wales from her home in Glasgow.

Following formal identification, the police issued a statement saying that their thoughts were with the family at such a distressing time.

The Assembly Member for the Vale, Jane Hutt, and Barry Island councillor Steffan Wiliam, voiced the sadness felt by people in the town.

Jane Hutt said: "The rescue services and the police have been exemplary in their commitment in the search and support for the family.

"But this is devastating news and our deepest sympathies and thoughts are with the parents of Hollie McClymont, for the loss of their beloved daughter in this tragic accident."

Coun Wiliam said: "The nightmare we all feared appears now to have been realised. One can only imagine the deep grief and despair which Hollie's family must feel.

"My thoughts are with them at this time."

Hollie was on Barry Island with friends when she got into difficulty in the water.

After her disappearance was reported to a PCSO on patrol, sea searches were conducted by HM Coastguard and RNLI lifeboats, while police conducted enquiries on land.

On Wednesday afternoon, during the search of an area of water by a specialist police search team, Hollie's body was discovered.

She was taken to Llandough Hospital where she was formally identified by her family.

South Wales Police Chief Inspector Marc Lamerton said: "This is obviously a very difficult time for Hollie's family and friends and our thoughts are with them.

"I would like to thank the community of Barry and the media for their support throughout the incident.

"I would also like to acknowledge the efforts and professionalism of the rescue teams who searched for Hollie.

"This tragedy has highlighted the issue of beach safety and while Barry Island is a really safe and enjoyable place to visit, I would urge visitors to heed the advice and swim in the designated areas."

Hollie's death will be investigated by police on behalf of HM Coroner.

Her headteacher, Andrew McSorley, of St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School in Glasgow, said: "It was a terrible shock to learn of Hollie's death.

"She was due to start fourth year in August and everyone at the school who knew her will be shocked and saddened by this awful news.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the family as they deal with their devastating loss."

ABOVE: Hollie McClymont.

Lifeguards in two dramatic rescues

WHITMORE Bay RNLI lifeguards on Saturday morning spotted two young swimmers in trouble.

The boys had gone out too far and were struggling to return to shore.

A lifeguard quickly paddled out on a rescue board and the boys were safely returned to shore, a spokeswoman said.

"Later that day, the lifeguards assisted two adults in an inflatable dinghy as they were swept out to sea by offshore winds.

"The lifeguards spotted the pair being swept further out to sea, paddled out on their rescue board, and towed them back to shore," she added.

During the hot spell, RNLI lifeguards assisted two people suffering from heat exhaustion and also assisted in searching for 25 lost children on Saturday.

Are you going to Cosmeston Fair?

THE 'Absolutely Fabulous' veggie and vegan craft fair will take place at the Tythe Barn, in the medieval village at Cosmeston Lakes this Sunday, July 21 (11am– 4pm). There will be a wide variety of stalls. Admission and car parking both free.

NCT nearly-new sale

AN NCT nearly-new sale will be held at Barry Comprehensive School (opposite Tesco), Port Road West, CF62 8ZJ, on Sunday, September 15 (11am-12.30pm).

Entrance, suggested donation, £1 adult. Baby/children's clothes, toys, equipment (e.g. prams) and maternity wear. Contact Julie on 01656 662564.

Proceeds in aid of the National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys branch. see www.nct.org.uk/in-your-area/southwales.

PACT meetings

STANWELL PACT, July 19 at The Pod, St Luke's Avenue, at 6pm.

CADOC PACT, July 24, at Palmerston Community and Learning Centre, at 6pm.

COWBRIDGE PACT, coffee and chat meeting, July 24 at The Red Fox, Penllyn, at 11am.

COURT PACT, July 25, at Ilminster Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry, at 6pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT, July 30, at the Residents' Board Office, 28 Coychurch Rise, Barry, at 10.30am.

CASTLELAND PACT, August 5, at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, at 7pm.

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The BIG Fill Schedule - July/August
Cowbridge - 27 and 28 July
Peterston Super Ely - 10 and 11 August
Let us know of any potholes in your ward from Monday through to Friday prior to the weekend shown above
Tackling potholes across the Vale
CONTACT US THE WEEK BEFORE WE ARE IN YOUR WARD

One year old wins his battle for life...

Little Noah, big heart!

Report by TIM CHAPMAN

In March this year, a little boy from Barry suffering from meningitis had his lower left leg amputated and lost the tips of his fingers and toes.

Noah Stephenson kept fighting, survived and is now looking forward to having his first prosthetic limb.

People in the town have been so touched by Noah's story that they are supporting the cause 'Noah's Road2Recovery' which will support him in overcoming some of the daunting hurdles he will face in the next few years.

Despite the traumatic start to his life, Noah is able to rely on the love and support of dad Gareth, mum Nicola and brother, Zak (3) in the years ahead.

Gareth told The GEM: "In March this year Noah was just eight months old when he contracted meningococcal septicaemia – better known as meningitis – and nearly lost his life.

"In the days that followed he was saved by the staff at University Hospital of Wales, but as his body battled the terrible virus he lost circulation to his extremities.

"He was in hospital for six weeks. In order to relieve pressure, his lower left leg was amputated.

"Further still, he lost small parts of the tips of all his fingers and remaining toes.

"We are now doing various fundraising events for his fund so that he can have a financially secure future to help pay for any rehabilitation, physiotherapy and prosthetic legs he may need – more than likely at the same rate any child may need new shoes!"

Thankfully, Noah is making significant progress.

Gareth said: "He is one year old this month and doing fantastically.

"In four to five weeks we hope he will have his first prosthetic leg to get him walking as any other child would do!"

So far family, friends and supporters have raised £10,000 to help Noah, and a major event is planned at the Ty Newydd Public House on Saturday, August 3.

There will be a skittles challenge, a raffle and an auction. Gareth said: "My skittles team, the Cavaliers, will be doing a sponsored skittle marathon to help raise funds for Noah.

"We aim to score 5,000 pins in 12 hours, from 10am in the morning to 10pm in the evening.

"During the day we will be holding a raffle and auctioning some sports memorabilia, including a signed Cardiff City shirt and a signed Lee Selby boxing glove in a glass frame.

"We are inviting people to turn up and challenge us during the day. A team of six will pay £20 and get a one hour slot and a team of 12 will pay £40 and get a two hour slot.

"If any challengers beat the Cavaliers their entry fee will be halved. Their scores will count towards our total.

"As a team, the Cavaliers are getting sponsors from friends and family to reach the 5,000 target in the 12 hours."

To enter a team, people can contact Gareth on 07540 238955 or by email at g.stephenson4@sky.com.

If you would like to make a donation to help Noah, go to: www.gofundme.com/2iyhc8 .

Noah recovering in hospital.

All hands on deck for Pendoylan parish summer barbecue!

IT was perfect weather last Saturday for the residents of Pendoylan to enjoy a village barbecue at the War Memorial Hall.

The annual event is organised by the Community Council and councillors were all hard at work catering for and looking after the villagers.

Many thanks are due to them for all their hard work. PG

ABOVE: Just the place for a cwtch!

Cream teas, a ladies choir, and the Red Arrows at Gileston

ON Sunday afternoon July 14, members of Llantwit Major Ladies Choir sang on the lawn at Gileston Manor, in support of Gileston church.

"What a beautiful afternoon in a beautiful setting and the fly past by the Red Arrows whilst we were singing our Les Miserables medley was uplifting to say the least!" said spokeswoman Zena Mabbs.

The group has gone from strength-to-strength in the last 12 months, and continues to give performances in the community at local venues. It resumes rehearsals at Llantwit Major RC Church, Ham Lane on Monday, September 9 at 1.45pm.

IMPS' CALL

CADOXTON Imps AFC Devils year-9 or under-14s team, urgently requires an experienced goalkeeper for the 2013/14 season.

If you are interested, telephone the manager, Alan Smith, on 07977498042.

Group's lifeline for the housebound

BONVILSTON'S older residents have thanked Jane Platts of Age Concern – Rural Connections in the Vale for forming a Tuesday coffee morning in the Reading Room for the over-50s in the rural Vale.

A spokesperson said: "It has been wonderful to meet with new friends, chat and have coffee, plus enjoy various activities and trips.

"Some of the activities include: extend exercises, various good speakers, craft and mah jong, to name a few); we also have a lunch club once a month.

"She is always there to help with any problems and transport. It has been a huge success and we would like to thank her for her kindness, hard work and dedication.

" For many of us who have been housebound, it has been a life-line.

"At the same time, we would like to thank Pat, Sally and Russ for their help with transport and numerous cups of coffee. Bless you all."

ABOVE: Three of the group who attend the coffee mornings.

Musical magic at the Ewenny Priory festival

EWENNY Arts Festival has held two concerts within a week – a charity concert for the Llanfair unit, and an evening of violin and piano with Sara Trickey and Daniel Tong.

The charity concert on July 5, organised by Bridgend sisters, Ruth and Catherine Felton, raised £500 much-needed funds to purchase art and music supplies for the acute adult mental health facility at Llandough Hospital.

The evening, which ended with a standing ovation, was an eclectic mix of musical styles, encompassing both the classical and contemporary.

Opening with the first movement of Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*, the programme proceeded through composers as diverse as Pachelbel and Lloyd Webber, Telemann and Cole Porter, Lennon/McCartney and Vaughan Williams.

The night concluded with all artistes combining their talents in a show-stopping rendition of 'For Good' from Stephen Shwartz's stage musical *Wicked*.

Performances, in addition to instrumentalists Ruth and Catherine, were by string quartet Ni'n Pedwar and sopranos Helen Davies and Rosie Howarth – former members of The National Youth Orchestra of Wales and BBC Chorus.

This was followed on July 11 by another magical evening, once again spanning musical eras: romantic, baroque and modern.

Given the ambient lighting and wonderful acoustics of the Priory Church in combination with Trickey's beautifully-refined tone and Tong's precision this was a truly beautiful evening's entertainment.

The programme included Beethoven's *Spring Sonata*, Faure's *Romance*, together with Schubert, Spiegel and Kreisler.

Solo violinist and Chamber musician, Trickey, studied at the Royal College of Music, at Cambridge University and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Tong, another soloist and Chamber musician who studied piano at the Royal College of Music and at The Guildhall in London, has performed and subsequently been broadcast worldwide.

This is to be followed by the next Ewenny Arts Festival Event – An Evening with the Hennessys on Thursday, September 19 at 7.30pm.

Details available via web-site www.ewennyfestival.co.uk or via its facebook page www.facebook.com/EwennyArtsFestival1.

New 'fly grazing' law welcomed

THE South Wales Central AM and Welsh Conservative Leader, Andrew RT Davies, has welcomed the Welsh Government's announcement that it plans to bring forward legislation to tackle fly grazing in Wales.

Mr Davies has long campaigned on the issue and has called for stiffer penalties for those found guilty of it.

He said: "I welcome this announcement, which is frankly long overdue. We need to see an effective solution to this problem, one which has blighted parts of Wales, in particular the Vale and Bridgend in recent years.

"I am also particularly pleased to see that the Minister plans to bring this legislation forward before the end of the year.

"This is an issue for the whole of Wales and that a concerted approach needs to be taken by the Government, in partnership with the relevant enforcement bodies and animal welfare agencies.

"I also hope to see an emphasis on supporting farmers having to contend with the issue of fly grazing and I am hopeful that any new legislation will focus heavily on protecting the rights of land owners."

Mr Davies remains committed to introducing a private members bill to tackle the broader issue of animal welfare and will be seeking to introduce back bench legislation, if he is successful in the ballot which takes place later this week.

He said: "We must provide proper protection for animals and ensure that they receive the care they require and deserve.

"My own bill will seek to improve the quality of life for animals in Wales. It will look at the fit and proper ownership of animals, ensuring minimum standards in terms of the environment in which they are kept, and consolidating and improving existing animal welfare legislation; including abandonment notices."

Pendoylan pupils have a great sports day

PENDOYLAN Church-in-Wales Primary School recently held its sports day on what turned out to be a glorious summer's day.

The children, staff and parents alike, all enjoyed a wonderful time and, after a hot afternoon of sprinting, sack races and even a parents' tug of war competition, the eventual winners were the Red team.

The trophy was awarded to team captains Iestyn and Darcy, who were particularly excited, as the Reds hadn't won for a number of years.

So congratulations to all the Pendoylan runners and racers and good luck for next year! **DJ**

ABOVE:
The Reds' team captains Iestyn and Darcy with the shield.

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals at the Trust's Bridgend Rehoming Centre.
(TELEPHONE: 01656 725219)

'BOUNCER' is a three-year-old Mastiff x Rottie, a handsome boy looking for an adult-only home, with owners who are used to big dogs.

He loves his treats, and enjoys training with his carers and learning new tricks. He would like to be the only dog in the home while he is still working on his socialising – but he is quickly getting better at mixing with other dogs while with us.

He visited our summer show a few weeks ago and was excellent around all the dogs that were there.

He can be left for a few hours, and is house-trained. We would like his new owner to visit him at the rehoming centre a few times before taking him home, and we will be on hand to help with his ongoing training.

He will make a very loyal and rewarding companion for the right person.

For any more information about Bouncer, or any of the other dogs looking for homes, please call us on 01656 725219 or pop into Dogs Trust, Court Colman, Pen-y-fai, Bridgend, CF31 4NG. Our opening hours are Tues – Sun 12 – 4, and late night opening on a Weds until 7.30pm.

LINDA FEAGAN
(Supporter Relations Officer – Bridgend)

'BOUNCER'

Village opposition to plan for a camp site

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

A ROW has broken out over plans to expand a camping site in a field behind a Vale coastal pub.

Last year, The Three Golden Cups in Southerndown trialled a scheme for a summer camp site behind the pub – catering in the main for people who wanted easy access to nearby surfing beaches.

Encouraged by the response last year, the site has now put a planning application into the Vale Council, looking to establish a 50-pitch camp site, together with "ancillary facilities and associated works", that will operate between March 15 and October 31.

However, at a recent packed meeting of the St Bride's Community Council, it was decided to oppose the plan.

Coun Audrey Preston, who is the Vale councillor for the area, told The GEM that she had never seen so many people turn out for a community council meeting, and that the mood of the meeting was very much against.

Local resident, Ian Lock, spoke to The GEM and said that the site was unsuitable because it was in the middle of the village, and that even with an average of five tents a night last year, there had been instances of noise and nuisance.

He said: "There are about 200 people in the village, and this could effectively double the population."

He added that last year, it had been promoted as a site which was ideal for surfing and for its proximity to a pub.

However, the landlord of the Three Golden Cups, Alun Williams, put up a determined defence when he spoke to The GEM.

He said: "This year, we have been around 70 per cent capacity, and most of those staying have been families."

Mr Williams acts only as a booking agent for the campsite, but the proximity of guests who buy drinks and meals has clearly boosted trade.

He said that a lot of people valued a quiet country pub, but pointed out that if it was quiet all year round, the pub would not survive: "We do 80 per cent of our business in the months between June and September, and the increased business from the camp site has enabled us to take on two new staff, both of whom live locally.

"The winter just passed was the worst ever, and it was a real struggle because the weather stayed poor for so long."

He added that he thought that local people were aiming at the wrong target, and that a controlled camp site would benefit the area.

He said: "There is a big problem with 'fly camping' in the area at the moment, and this leaves the Vale Council having to clear rubbish left behind by campers.

"What is more, the visitors to this camp site park here, and don't add to the gridlock we get along the coast road on sunny days."

The planning application is due to go before the council on July 25, and Mr Lock told The GEM that he hoped the council would apply its own policy, which was not to allow new camping sites within the Heritage Coast.

He said residents were also objecting to a new access point to the campsite, which would mean that a section of an existing stone wall would be knocked down. At the moment, campers enter the camp site through the pub's car park.

Mr Lock added that he had a longer-term worry, because he was concerned that if permission was granted to build toilet blocks and other facilities, it could open the door, some time in the future, for a planning application to build houses on the site.

Alun Williams, of the Three Golden Cups, said that he was disappointed with the opposition, and said that a thriving local pub was important to any small community.

He said: "We have plans to open a small shop here, that would sell local produce and other goods, which will help the village economy."

The application has been made by two local businessmen, Roger Thomas and Peter Davies, and Mr Thomas said: "We were encouraged to develop this camp site by the Vale Council, who identified a need for this type of site.

"We recognise that there will be opinions regarding whatever happens to the field, but we have followed the advice of Vale Council planners, and the matter will now be decided by the council's planning committee."

ADVERTISEMENT

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. *'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'*

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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27 & 28 July
Street Dance

Featuring Team Extreme performances and workshops on Sat and Sun. Sunday will be packed with performances from local groups from Motion Control Dance. 11am to 4pm each day.

3 & 4 August
Street Art

Let loose your artistic flair by drawing on the mini cubes along the prom or try the free graffiti workshops. All ages welcome - 11am to 4pm each day.

10 & 11 August
Zapcats

Fast and furious Zapcat powerboat action. The adrenalin- pumped racing will take place on both days from 11am.

Bring a picnic and a blanket and enjoy some music before the film starts.

17 & 18 August
Seaside Sport

Enjoy a host of sports by the sea. Take part in Beach Volleyball, Disability sports and Beach cricket. Try your skills on the surf simulator and the climbing wall and explore the Play Village. The England Beach Soccer Team will also be on the beach. The event will end with Zumba on the Prom with Andrea - Sunday at 5pm.

24 & 25 August
Cinema by the Sea

Enjoy an evening of cinema by the sea
Saturday from 8.30pm
BACK TO THE FUTURE
Sunday from 8.30pm
GREASE SING-A-LONG

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

All events take place along the prom or Island Gardens. Please note events may change at short notice. For more information please call 01446 704737 or go to www.visitthevale.com

Charity's praise for Eileen's 'courage and commitment'

FRIENDS and family were joined by Vale AM, Jane Hutt, at the Fox and Hounds in St Brides Major to congratulate Eileen Matthews on winning an award from the Stroke Association,

It honours her courage and commitment in supporting those who, like herself, have suffered from strokes, often at an early age.

The AM commented: "Having suffered two strokes, Eileen has a clear understanding of the needs of others and she has overcome great adversity with courage and commitment.

"I am delighted that the Stroke Association has recognised this with her award."

Eileen (right) with the AM in St Brides Major.

Fire Service proposes changes to stations in the Vale and Bridgend

A REVIEW which addresses how South Wales Fire and Rescue Service operates across the Vale and Bridgend areas, could see major changes to how local stations are run.

In Cowbridge, it is proposed that full time firefighters could be moved to other stations and replaced by 'on-call' firefighters.

The review states that over the last 10 years in Cowbridge, for a number of reasons, there have been fewer emergencies.

It goes on: *"The area around Cowbridge is quite low risk and when there is an emergency, another fire engine from a different fire station usually gets there first.*

"This means we have more full-time firefighters than we really need to make sure everyone in Cowbridge stays safe."

In Barry, the review has proposed that there should be one fire engine with five full time firefighters and another engine with five 'on call' firefighters.

The rationale behind that suggestion, says the review, is: *"We have two fire engines at Barry Fire Station. There are five full-time firefighters on each fire engine.*

"Over the last 10 years, for lots of different reasons, the number of emergencies they have attended has got less and less.

"This means we have more full-time firefighters than we really need to make sure everyone in Barry is safe."

In Bridgend a new fire station could be built in South Cornelly to replace the stations in Kenfig Hill and Porthcawl.

The review explains: "*Our firefighters do not attend the same number of emergencies in the Bridgend area as they used to.*

"This means we have more fire engines and firefighters than we really need to keep everyone safe.

"By carefully choosing a location between the two fire stations we can provide more efficient protection with only a very small statistical increase in risk.

"We will continue to work even harder with the local community to reduce the number of emergencies we attend. This will reduce the risk further and save more lives in the Bridgend area."

Huw Jakeway, Chief Fire Officer at South Wales Fire and Rescue Service said: *"The Fire Cover Review will be reviewing the whole service area, but this will take place in three stages; stage one will look at the the Vale, Bridgend and Cardiff authorities.*

"The review looks at the location, number and type of resources within each of our authorities including firefighters' vehicles, equipment and fire stations – that are needed, and where they should be located to provide the most efficient and effective and safest fire and rescue service across south Wales.

"Any proposed changes to those resources will be consulted upon with our employees, the public and partners.

"This essential feedback from this consultation will be taken to our Fire and Rescue Authority for agreement before moving on to stage two of the Fire Cover Review."

• If anyone wants to respond to the review proposals, they can send their views to Freepost RSAU-CCXG-XKAS, South Wales Fire & Rescue Service, Unit 2, Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, Pontyclun, CF72 8LX; or email: haveyoursay@southwales-fire.gov.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

REGISTRATION for this summer's Free Play 4 Life has been extended, so children can now be signed up until tomorrow (Friday July 19).

Taking place in community venues across Bridgend county borough, the sessions encourage children aged eight to 11 to take part in a variety of sports, play and craft activities.

Now in its fourth year, Play 4 Life is funded by local town and community councils and is run by Bridgend council's Active Young People department in partnership with Halo Leisure.

Three-to-seven-year-olds can enjoy 'Mini Play 4 Life' for just £2.50 a session.

Herb garden flourishes

COSMESTON medieval village has a flourishing herb garden again – thanks to staff and volunteers who spent six months nurturing the medieval garden back to full strength.

Over 20 different varieties of herbs and spices include elderflower, rosemary, borage, comfrey, St John's wort and lavender.

The cottage-sized herb garden was left unmanaged for over a year due to staff reorganisation, but is now being tended by the team.

Cosmeston medieval village is open seven days a week, 10am – 4pm. Entry is free; however, if you'd like to upgrade your visit to a guided tour by one of the costumed guides, there is a charge of £2.50 per person. Tours run every day at 12pm; 1.30pm and 3pm.

Open gardens

THE 17th 'Open Gardens Trail' takes place in Penarth on Saturday July 27 (from 10am – 6pm); and on Sunday July 28 (from 12 noon – 5pm).

Eight gardens and the Sully Terrace allotments will be open. Admission to all gardens is £5; children admitted free.

Some addresses where ttickets may be purchased: 68, Redlands Road, Penarth; 77, Coleridge Avenue; 82, Plymouth Road; 18, Evenlode Avenue; 123, Westbourne Road and 4, Tudor Close, Westbourne Road, Penarth.

Contact Ann Lush (02920 703547), or email:ann@lush.eu.com for full details.

All proceeds to the Children's Society.

Vale church that changed direction shuts doors – but God's work goes on

ON Sunday July 28, following a final service of celebration at 3pm, the doors of Ebenezer URC in Llantwit Major will close for the last time after 198 years .

Some five weeks before the Battle of Waterloo, the Consistory Court at Llandaff licensed a house called Ebenezer in Colhugh Street as an Independent Calvinistic meeting place, naming Watkin Watkin as the minister.

There is a tradition that a group of non-Conformists had been ejected from St Donat's some 60 years before and, having moved to Llantwit Major, had made slow but steady progress to such an extent that they were in a position to acquire a property for use as a place of worship.

Whether there is any truth to this story or not, the house became the first non-Conformist chapel in the town, though not in the parish as Bethesda'r Fro holds that honour.

The Tithe Map of 1839 confirms that there were three houses in the row, so the congregation had a home but it soon lost its leader, who left for America. Consequently it scattered, many joining Bethesda. The church was closed and almost sold to the Baptists.

There followed a number of attempts to revive fortunes but it was not until the arrival of Rev Morgan Morgan from Blaenavon that things began to look up. Initially, he came to minister to Bethesda and Nurston (Rhoose) chapels, but was persuaded to take on the resurrection of Ebenezer.

He was a remarkable man for he was able to clear the church's considerable debts within months and proceeded to oversee the three chapels for nigh on 40 years, preaching in English at Ebenezer and Welsh at the other two.

All this and running the Post Office in Boverton as well.

He died on Sunday March 15 1874, whilst travelling between the chapels. One obituary described him as a "very edifying and sweet preacher".

Ebenezer was flourishing as was the tie between it and Bethesda for the three ministers who followed all served both chapels. It was during the time of Rev John Llewellyn that the congregation began to express dissatisfaction with their enlarged house which ran parallel to Beach Road, especially as it had a smaller capacity than Bethesda.

However, the members had a typically Victorian attitude to debt and though they raised funds through eisteddfodau, concerts and bazaars, they were still well short.

Llewellyn finally persuaded them to ask for loans and the foundation stone was laid in November 1905, in atrocious weather.

The builder was a local man – John Chatterton and it took until 1916 to clear the debt. The church was turned around and now faced at right angles to the Beach Road.

Throughout the 1920s and 30s the congregation remained strong and the ministers promoted activities for young people across the Vale. In order to attract ministers it was decide to go into debt again and build a manse on Boverton Road.

The house was called 'Bro Dawel' and it survived until the 1970s, when it was demolished to make way for The Precinct.

During World War Two Bethesda was only open intermittently because of the security demands of RAF St Athan and it struggled to re-establish itself.

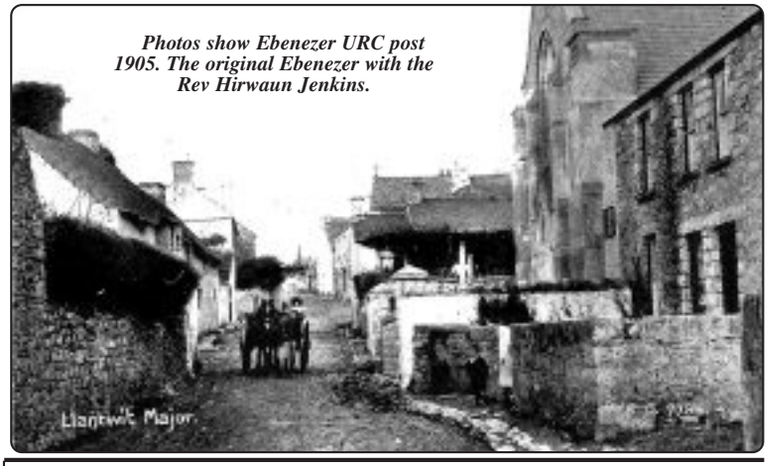
During the 1950s and 60s Ebenezer began to experience a decline in numbers. The Congregational Church combined with other denominations to form The United Reformed Church and the ties between Ebenezer and Bethesda were finally broken in 1974, when the latter was encouraged to go it alone with the assistance of the RAF.

Over the 108 years of its existence, the present building has not just been a place of worship. It housed the YMCA during World War Two, a class from the overcrowded school and, more recently, a nursery. And how many men based at RAF Llandow or St Athan have wed their sweethearts within its walls?

Sadly, the economics of maintaining a building have become prohibitive for a small congregation, especially one that is no longer young. The difficult decision to close the church was made, but the congregation intends to move en-bloc and join Bethesda'r Fro where it has been worshipping for more than 10 years, thus cementing a link which was established more than 150 years ago.

That is why the service on July 28, to which all are invited, will be one of celebration, for God's work will go on.

NIGEL WILLIAMS



Photos show Ebenezer URC post 1905. The original Ebenezer with the Rev Hirwaun Jenkins.

Record numbers attend the family fun day at Ty Hafan

A RECORD number of 2,500 people flocked to Ty Hafan's family fun day, held at its stunning facility on the edge of the Bristol Channel in Sully.

A few famous faces were spotted during the day, including Cardiff Blues' captain Andries Pretorius and his wife Rosie along with Casualty star Patrick Robinson, who raised £1,000 for Ty Hafan when he appeared on ITV's All Star Family Fortunes the night before.

This year's fun day, sponsored by Dow Corning, offered something for everyone, from classic car displays to fairground rides, live entertainment, a climbing wall and market stalls...

...not forgetting the fantastic animal displays, including birds of prey, police dogs and horses, as well as special visits from Star Wars characters, Captain Jack Sparrow and Hello Kitty!

Members of the care services team were on hand throughout the day to guide visitors around the hospice, showing them the amazing facilities on offer to life-limited children, young people and their families.

"We had the best turnout and we're so pleased so many people came along to show their support," said Ty Hafan's event organiser Jessica Morgan. "There was such a fantastic atmosphere during the day and it was so wonderful to see everyone enjoying themselves.

"The fun day is a great opportunity for us to be able to show the general public around and bring them up to speed with the breadth of services we offer.

"I would also like to say a huge thank you to Dow Corning for sponsoring the event, our volunteers for all their hard work, as well as all those who came along and made it our best fun day to date."

To see a video of the fun day visit: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qW3ltFG7STA&list=PLjShwG1xwRGNz27ydFSVwrjjlhJNnU0TR

For more information about Ty Hafan visit www.tyhafan.org.

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LLANCARFAN PRIMARY'S WELCOME HOME FOR ITS MARATHON CHARITY 'PELOTON'

LLANCARFAN Primary School's recent summer fair had two reasons to celebrate.

First, it was a chance to welcome home headteacher Colin Smith and six Llancarfan pupils' dads from their successful 'Killarney to Llancarfan' charity bike ride...

The second reason to celebrate was that the school was now assured of its future, after a proposal to close it, which came to light several months ago, was dropped

More than 250 people came together on the school field in the glorious sunshine to enjoy a barbecue and to spend their pennies at the many stalls put together by pupils.

With a choice from cakes, crafts, plants and sweets to craft making, coconut shy and fossil hunting, everyone was kept busy during the afternoon!

A disco followed for pupils while parents continued to enjoy the sunshine. The PTA, staff and pupils all did a fantastic job once again to make Llancarfan summer fair a great success, with all the cash raised going towards vital school equipment.

WELCOME HOME

Mr Smith and his six fellow cyclists had returned earlier in the week. The 300-mile charity had a target of raising £4,000 for the school PTA and the 'Dreams and Wishes' charity.

The head, alongside Paul Rebhan, Oli Spencer, Roger Phelps, Paul Clancy, Ian McMeechan, and Derek Evans had returned to a celebration in the historic St Cadoc's churchyard, a fitting end to a bike ride, which closely followed the pilgrimage route taken by Saint Cadoc.

Pedalling on average 75 miles a day, the team made good progress, managing to call in on the school\s Comenius partners at Glenfesk School, Killarney and also visiting Lismore Castle.

There were a few minor injuries en-route but no major set-backs.

The fundraising total is still to be confirmed, but the team are confident they will have reached their £4,000 target.

"We have had so much support from everyone at the school and the local community" said Paul Rebhan

"It was a very emotional welcome home and lovely to see our families and friends lining the path through St Cadoc's churchyard.

"We would also like to say a big thank you to our support drivers, Steve Vink and Arwyn Rees, who managed to keep track of us along the way."

Mr Colin Smith, added "We have been overwhelmed by the support and hope to continue with our fundraising efforts next year –with a bike ride from Land's End to John O'Groats.

"Our chosen charity this year, Dreams and Wishes, does an amazing job of supporting seriously ill children and their families, and we look forward to announcing our total raised and presenting them with a cheque."

ABOVE:
The cyclists arrive back at at St Cadoc's Church, in Llancarfan.

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Monsters University passes screen test

PIXAR, while easily the most innovative animation studio on the block, have never been afraid to go back to the well and attempt to improve on the original (just see *Toy Story 2* and *3*).

With a *Finding Nemo* sequel also on the horizon, the studio have entered prequel territory with *Monsters University*. Set before 2001's *Monsters Inc*, it sees Sulley and Mike (voiced by John Goodman and Billy Crystal) in their student days, as they meet in the same fraternity; however, the polar opposites don't exactly hit it off in a rivalry that will tear their world apart but eventually bring them together...

Very often, returning to the scene of your past glories indicates that the creative well is running dry; this is something that even applies to Pixar, the previously-imperious studio showing the faintest chink in their armour (particularly with *Cars 2* and the decent but standard *Brave*).

It's understandable, then, that given the popular reception afforded their *Toy Story* sequels, that they would take another trip down sequel (or, in this case, prequel) lane with another of their hugely popular creations, *Monsters Inc*.

The original was a huge success, and made for a hugely entertaining film, but 12 years later do the characters warrant a revisit? The answer is a positive one, but anyone expecting a seismic experience like Pixar have usually delivered will feel let down.

That isn't to say *Monsters University* doesn't entertain, but it feels more like an above average direct-to-DVD follow-up rather than a cinematic effort.

As usual, the film looks fantastic, and the 3D (something recent box office figures indicate is a craze on the wane) gives you a rich depth, while the story itself plays as an intriguing look at how Mike and Sulley became the best buddies that we meet in *Monsters Inc*.

Like the usual Pixar fare, the gag rate is pretty rapid and the majority stick, but skewering far more to the younger audience, lacking the bite for grown-ups that usual goes hand in hand with the material, especially when the college setting riffs so heavily on the likes of *Revenge Of The Nerds* and *Animal House*.

A few more well-aimed gags in that vein would have been a welcome site rather than the 'anyone can achieve their dreams' moral that permeates the story a little too much.

The nature of a prequel does mean that a certain amount of suspense and peril goes out the window, and if the references to the toxicity of children and the danger they pose comes off as half-baked, knowing what we know, there are a few clever twists before we get to the present day with the presence of several characters from *Monsters Inc* slipped in with minimal jarring, not feeling shoehorned at all.

The vocal cast are impressive, with John Goodman and Billy Crystal falling back into their roles like it hasn't been 12 years, while new additions Helen Mirren and Nathan Fillion (to name but two) bring a nice amount of gusto the vocal booth.

While you can't fault the laughs it generates and also the way it cleverly develops the franchise's universe, there is just something about *Monsters University* that feels like it's stuck in fourth gear, not quite getting to top speed; anyone who likes *Monsters Inc*, or Pixar films generally, will find much to enjoy but it won't light your fire in the way *Up* or *Toy Story 3* do.

VERDICT: Nowhere near the weakest of their output (*Cars, Cars 2*) but not quite up there with their best either,

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

Monsters University is a satisfying and pleasing film that has likeable characters, good jokes and an engaging story.

It feels like there's something missing just to push it over the edge into greatness, but as it stands, it's a good film. *Enjoyable*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Monsters Inc* (2001), *Toy Story 2* (2000).

NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

Bees take priority over honey harvest

THE year 2013 is now half gone, and the bees that came through the winter are looking very well.

As of yet, I have not had any of them swarming but with the drier and warmer conditions that are prevailing, I have already answered calls to swarms in Cardiff, Penarth, Barry and Wick.

Of these, I have introduced two into the apiary here at Fonmon. Others have been passed on to beginners who have not been able to purchase bees this year.

How do those new to the craft of beekeeping get established? Well, the usual route would be the purchase of a nucleus of bees, but the dramatic loss of bees nationwide this past winter has meant that not many packages of bees have been offered for sale.

What is a nucleus? It is a Queen bee accompanied by several thousand worker bees in a smaller version of the standard hive (the national type hive is a much-used pattern).

Given fair weather, the Queen in this nucleus will start to lay eggs and the development of these eggs into new bees means that the nucleus is building up in bee numbers, and therefore will require to be moved into a full size hive (the national).

From this small beginning, the new beekeeper may well wish to have an apiary holding two or three colonies, and given that bees do swarm, he/she could well become retrievers of swarms themselves, and hence an apiary develops.

Many of the requests to tackle swarms have turned out to be bumblebees, and bird boxes have been much-favoured sites. The removal of the boxes and their occupants has not been too difficult, and re-locating has met with some success.

However, some of the bumblebees have occupied spaces where getting at them was not really viable i.e. under decking, in loft spaces, under sheds and in compost bins.

No damage is caused by bumblebees occupying these spaces, and remember they, like the honeybee, are pollinators. So if the bees are not causing you any inconvenience, leave them where they are, as they will eventually die off. Unlike honeybees, they do not survive over the winter. So, how do bumblebees keep the species going? Well, all of the nest occupants die off except for several females that have been designated to be the Queens for the following year.

These females will leave the nest site as individuals and find a place to hibernate and will start a new colony elsewhere in the following spring.

Will I get honey this year? I live in hope, but the welfare of the bees is my main concern, and their need for honey far outweighs mine. July is forecast to be okay weather wise, and the pollinating insects will certainly appreciate it.

The varroa mite is still a major problem for beekeepers, and on the horizon we have the Asian hornet (a predator of bees). It is not with us yet, but it is only a matter of time, because it is well established in France due to transporting commodities around the world.

As if this wasn't enough, we have the threat of the small hive beetle lurking in the wings (a South African bee predator) and this will also eventually appear.

Many challenges lie ahead, and the established and new beekeepers must meet them. The invaders I have mentioned are, in particular, parasites of honeybees and not of other pollinators.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Train takes strain for Penarth and District Ramblers

RECENTLY, the group had the pleasure of leaving cars at home, the Vale railway dropping them off at destinations for two enjoyable coastal walks.

The first saw 15 walkers including Anna and daughter Jenny from America joining Joy for the journey to Llantwit Major, where they spent some time exploring St Illtud's Church before following Church Lane and overgrown paths to make their way down into Tresilian Bay to Reynard's Cave, where they enjoyed some swashbuckling smugglers' tales before returning to the cliff walking east along the Wales Coast Path to Llantwit Major.

After coffee, they continued past Stout Point to Summerhouse Point, viewing the summerhouse within an Iron Age hill fort before continuing to Limpert Bay passing Aberthaw Power Station to enjoy lunch at Pleasant Harbour.

Climbing to Fontygary Caravan Park, they journeyed on in hot sunshine to pass through the caravan park at Porthkerry, before dropping downhill for cooling ices at Porthkerry Park to fortify them for the journey up through Cliffwood and through the town to Barry railway station and the homeward journey.

The second was a 20-mile mid-week celebratory tramp for the group's 20th year when four keen walkers joined Joy on the train this time to Bridgend on a boiling hot day and following the River Ogmore they crossed Newbridge Fields then meadows to Merthyr Mawr stopping on the beach at Traeth yr Afon for refreshments.

Reaching Merthyr Mawr with its lovely church, delightful thatched cottages and ruined castle, they crossed the river to climb up onto Ogmore Down and at St Brides Major headed downhill through fields and woods to Dunraven for lunch in the walled garden.

The passage across three lovely clean beaches with a cooling breeze was fantastic and climbing at Nash Point they followed the cliff path through St Donat's and Tresilian Bay back to Llantwit beach. After cooling ice creams and a drink at the Swan, thankfully they were able to rest tired feet and bodies on the train journey back.

On July 20 (note the change of walk) meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile moderate historical Romans and Celts ramble; contact Barbara on 01446 794313.

On July 21, meet at 9.30am at Cogan for a nine-mile hard walk taking in Fan Brycheiniog and Llyn y Fan Fawr; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

On July 23, meet at 8am at Cogan for a 15-mile hard walk at Llanthony Priory, the Honddu and Olchen valleys; contact William on 01446 747239.

On July 25, the evening ramble will leave Rhoose railway station at 7pm for a 4.5-mile easy/moderate walk at Rhoose and East Aberthaw; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

Butterflies, waves, and the Can Can!

MEMBERS of Sully U3A were treated to 'A Musical Lucky Dip' by member Clive Sims at their July meeting.

Clive has a vast experience of teaching music and is an accomplished pianist and organist and shared a collection of music and songs ranging from Offenbach's 'Barcarolle' to Paul McCartney's 'Yesterday'.

The members were asked to shut their eyes and imagine a butterfly flitting around the garden, while listening to Grieg's 'Butterfly', imagine the waves ebbing and flowing while listening to 'Ebb Tide'; and feel free to join in the Can Can!

Clive gave a pen picture of the various composers with anecdotes which gave an insight into their compositions and was thanked by chairman, Gill Mathias.

Sully U3A's next meeting will be on Thursday, August 8 at 2pm, in The Old School, South Road, Sully. This will be an open afternoon when the various interest groups will display and talk about their activities.

Non-members are welcome to drop in and see what U3A has to offer.

SC

VALEPLUS CHALLENGE

THE ValePlus charity, which provides training and lifelong learning for adults with learning disabilities, is organising the ValePlus Challenge on Saturday, September 14 from 10am-3pm.

It is a team challenge (maximum of three) to navigate around the Barry area, following instructions, looking for clues, and completing challenges.

There will be prizes for categories including pub, sports, three generation and business teams.

Teams must register in advance. For full information, see www.valeplus.org.uk or email melanie@valeplus.org.uk (or call 01446 746691).

SUMMER PRAISE

RIGHT: Samantha Taylor and husband Peter, with Matthew and Rose.

ON Sunday July 7, Deacon Samantha Taylor (minister in the Vale Circuit) was received into the Methodist Connexion of Britain and ordained as a Deacon at Southwark Cathedral during the Methodist conference in London.

Her family and friends from the Methodist Churches in Barry, Penarth and St Athan were present at the service.

Adventure cruise holiday clubs (for primary age children) are again taking place in the Vale Methodist circuit. Dates/venues are: July 23, 24, 25 (10am – 12.30) at St John Methodist Church, Barry Island.

On July 28 (11am) there will be a Holiday club themed Service for all ages. July 29, 30, 31 (10am – 12.30pm) at The Gathering Place Church and Community Centre.

For full details contact Deacon Sam Taylor on 406262 or deaconsam@live.co.uk

Vale finalists in autism art competition

LOCAL autistic youngsters have reached the final judging stages of CREATE! Art for Autism, a UK-wide competition for young people with an Autistic Spectrum Condition.

The competition for ages 11-25 with an ASC or Asperger's Syndrome, was set up to showcase their creative capabilities.

This year, the competition attracted 810 entries from all across the UK, and even as far afield as Florida. Judges whittled them down to just 41 finalists,including Hannah Grace Denwood (9) from Fairfield Junior School in Penarth (in poetry); Taylor Boulton (17) from Ysgol Maes Dyfan in Barry, in the 3D artwork category, and Charlotte Elver (20) in Beechwood College in Sully, in digital photography.

The judges included Vale MP Alun Cairns and Jane Asher, president of the National Autistic Society and married to illustrator Gerald Scarfe.

All shortlisted finalists will be displayed at a special awards ceremony on July 19 at Beechwood College, in the Vale.

BEATING BULLIES

EYEPAT CIC is launching a unique anti-bullying programme in The Orial at the Senedd today (July 18) where it will be showing Happy Kids Don't Bully films.

Contact admin@eyepat.org or telephone 01446 795055 for further details.

60th FETE IS HUGE SUCCESS

AFTER last year's wash-out, the weather for Barry Scout and Guides' 60th annual fete was back on track – with glorious sunshine to help the Scouts and Guides celebrate their diamond jubilee.

The organisers estimate attendance by members of the public and uniform members at over 6,000, helping to recoup last year's loss and to boost the funds needed by the Scout and Guide groups in Barry.

The traditional marchpast to open the fete was led by the 1st Rogerstone Scout and Guide Band, the only Scout and Guide marching band in Wales.

After a short introduction by Cathie Steele, fete committee chair, Dr Who impersonator, Carwyn Provis, formally opened the fete.

During the opening ceremony Lesley Bryan, Scout leader with 5th Barry Sea Scout Group, was presented by Richard Edwards, area commissioner, the Chief Scout Medal of Merit.

A number of Girlguides were also presented by Jayne Newcombe, Division Commissioner, Baden Powell awards.

Following the official opening, the arena programme kept visitors entertained throughout the afternoon, with a display from Police Dog display team.

The arena games were a huge hit with the Beavers, Rainbows, Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides, demonstrating that Scouting and Guiding is fun.

The Scout and Guide fete committee would like to thank everyone who attended and helped with the 60th fete.

Thanks go, in particular, to the group leaders for their continued support, which allows children from Barry and the surrounding districts to experience Scouting and Guiding and learn new skills, which will serve them well in the future.

Also, to those who helped set up and run the event, the countless helpers setting up the stalls, the parents and friends organising each group's contributions; the sponsors and patrons who provide needed financial support; the Vale of Glamorgan Council; Barry Town Council; St John's Ambulance; and the Barry Air Training Corp (372 Squadron).

The fete committee would like to particularly say thank you to the parks and open spaces staff, especially Neil and Eryl, and other staff of the Vale Council who help to prepare the park.

The fete committee is always trying to improve on our annual event and would appreciate any feedback through our survey which is on our website at www.barryscouts.org/fete.

CS

Carnival time with Welsh Proms at St David's Hall!

SUMMER in the city brings the magnificent Welsh Proms Cardiff to the centre of the St David's Hall stage, in an exciting programme of unmissable live music.

The Welsh Proms Cardiff brings a carnival atmosphere to St David's Hall in a week-long festival of music which is the highlight of the summer calendar in Cardiff on July 20-27.

As we celebrate 30 years since our official opening, the national concert hall of Wales welcomes audiences to a packed programme of live music of all genres, including folk, jazz, brass and children's concerts, plus performances from world class orchestras and soloists in the orchestral proms.

The dazzling array of performers includes the groundbreaking young trumpet soloist Tine Thing Helseth in the Fanfare Prom; Caroline Sheen and David Shannon in the Best of the West End Prom; Peter Donohoe in the Romantic Prom and Pete Long in the Jazz Prom.

Add this to the 'beautifully sung anarchy' in the Spooky Men's Prom; tales of Heroes and Villains, narrated by children's TV presenter Barney Harwood in the Family Prom; a trip to Bert's Magical Musical Farmyard in Tiddly Prom and a host of free and fringe events, this year's Welsh Proms Cardiff promises to be one of the finest Wales has seen.

Tickets for orchestral proms start from just £5.50!

Please visit www.stdavidshall-cardiff.co.uk for full information or call 02920 878444 to request a brochure.

The village show continues a rural tradition at Llancarfan

LAST weekend's Llancarfan Village Show took place on the sunniest and hottest day of the year so far – so finding shade on the village green was almost as important as winning a prize!

See next week's GEM for more photographs and for details of the winners.

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TALL SHIP SAILS IN FOR BARRY EXCHANGE VISIT

TODAY, July 18, in the lead-up to Minehead Harbour Festival, a group of young people from west Somerset are helping to sail the tall ship *Irene* of Bridgwater, from Minehead to Barry – to celebrate the heritage maritime trade link between the two towns.

The ship is carrying a symbolic hamper of local produce to exchange with a similar hamper of local produce from the Vale.

There will be a supper at Barry Yacht Club this evening made from ingredients from both towns and on Friday morning at 10am there will be a reception on board. The exchange of hampers will be made by the Mayor of the Vale and the Mayor of Minehead. The ship will return to Minehead at midday.

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Thanking everyone for their continued support

It's showtime, for Porthcawl town carnival

THE theme for the Porthcawl Buckaneers Carnival this Saturday, July 20 is 'TV shows' and there are new entries for floats this year.

Elindia Belly dancers will dance the route and the carnival procession will start at 1.30pm from Sandy Bay park, Porthcawl, town centre, finishing at Porthcawl Rugby Club.

At the front, the Westside All Stars will provide an interesting take on marching!

At the carnival field, will be a travelling fair, numerous stalls and sideshows. There is no entry fee.

"We will be entertained by Bernie Bennett's high wire act and Bruce Airhead. If you want to become involved please contact us.

"This is a local event for the enjoyment of the community of Porthcawl. In addition, it provides opportunities for local charities and good causes to raise much needed funds.

"As Porthcawl Buckaneers the funds we raise are donated to the community", said spokesperson Kerry Marlow.

"If you have a good cause or organisation that you wish to collect for, we are always looking for assistance on our collection days, so come and help us and we will make a donation to your cause.

"If you can help us please contact (01656 771457 or 07900494386, or email: marlowk@sky.com."

LLANTWIT MAJOR CRAFT & GIFT FAIRS

Saturday 20th July - Llantonian Hall

(behind the library) **10.00am - 3pm**

Come and see your regular favourites, look at new stalls and indulge in a yummy snack.

Enquiries: contact Peta Shields

E:petashields@gmail.com

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Day Trips for 2013

Date	Day	Destination	Adult Fare	OAP/Child
24/07/2013	Wednesday	Royal Welsh Show (Coach Only)	£12.00	£11.00
25/07/2013	Thursday	Cotswolds Villages - Day Trip	£11.95	£10.95
27/07/2013	Saturday	Weston Super Mare	£12.00	£11.00
03/08/2013	Saturday	Windsor	£14.00	£13.00
06/08/2013	Tuesday	Moreton in the Marsh 'Cotswolds'	£11.00	£10.00
11/08/2013	Sunday	Oakwood Park or Folly Farm (Coach Only)	£9.50	£8.50
13/08/2013	Tuesday	West Midlands Safari (Coach Only)	£14.50	£13.50
17/08/2013	Saturday	Wells & Burnham on Sea	£11.50	£10.95
25/08/2013	Sunday	Drayton Manor (Coach Only)	£15.00	£13.00
31/08/2013	Saturday	Tenby & Saundersfoot	£10.95	£10.00
11/09/2013	Wednesday	Carmarthen Market & Tenby	£ 9.50	£ 9.00
21/09/2013	Saturday	Bicester, Oxfordshire	£14.00	£13.00
12/10/2013	Saturday	Tewksbury & Ross on Wye 'Labels'	£11.50	£10.50
26/10/2013	Saturday	Stratford Upon Avon (Early Xmas Shopper)	£12.95	£11.95
23/11/2013	Saturday	Cheltenham Christmas Shopper	£11.50	£11.00
30/11/2013	Saturday	Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre	£13.75	£13.00
TBA	Await Date	Caerphilly Medieval Xmas Fayre	TBA	TBA
08/12/2013	Sunday	Bath Christmas Market	£13.75	£12.75
22/12/2013	Sunday	London Xmas Shopping & Sights	£20.00	£19.00

Minimum passenger numbers are required, therefore early reservation is essential.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR DAY TRIPS OR THE HIRE OF COACHES & MINI-BUSES CALL

Cresta Coaches

Telephone 01656 - 660366

or call at Cresta Coaches,

Unit 6, Litchard Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 2AL

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D783.

- **£2,000:** 636145.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £2,000, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 376297, 735428, 469582, 641393, 777511, 546940, 896686, 834226, 801545, 560144, 171584, 684941, 554961, 890222, 490041, 783592, 515394, 685387, 945567.
- **£5:** 574222, 507266, 624020, 111737, 688163, 582067, 843638, 277313, 279291, 610377, 186241, 410228, 166548, 677432, 994310, 258579, 706879, 175982, 623269, 261259, 662760, 292837, 594102, 115647, 633189, 527223, 489425, 676146, 223974, 525600, 109087, 729533, 527568, 834376, 523629, 549441, 162712, 325227, 232342, 995502, 639877, 443745, 842383, 635495, 669609, 640661, 458081, 421891, 482111, 558249, 566872, 171363, 517134, 722783, 500495, 271367, 400494.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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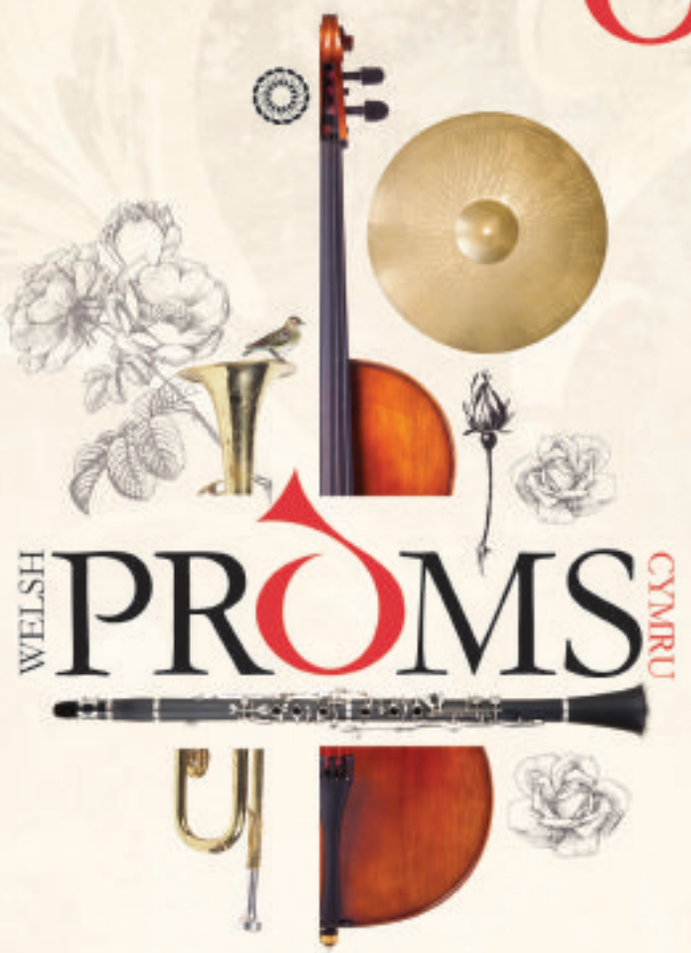

Tiddly Prom
Saturday 20 – 27th July 10.30am

Family Prom: Heroes and Villains
Saturday 20th July 12 Noon
Featuring children's TV presenter Barney Harwood

Hall of Fame Prom
Saturday 20th July 7.30pm

Brass and Voices Prom
Sunday 21st July 5.00pm

Spooky Men's Prom
Tuesday 23rd July 7.30pm

Best of the West End Prom
Wednesday 24th July 7.30pm
Featuring Caroline Sheen & David Shannon

Romantic Prom
Thursday 25th July 7.30pm
Featuring Peter Donohoe CBE & Stephen Disley

Fanfare Prom
Friday 26th July 7.30pm
Featuring Tine Thing Helseth

Last Night of the Welsh Proms
Saturday 27th July 7.00pm

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Charity concert in memory of Ray Murray

Report and photographs
by **KEITH E MORGAN**

THE inaugural Ray Murray concert, sponsored by Porters Estate Agents and held to raise funds for the Cowbridge-based charity, Prostate Cymru, featured the Bridgend Male Choir with musical director Rhiannon Williams-Hale, guest accompanist Sian Davies and compère Gareth Davies.

Also on stage were the Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School Choir, with conductor Debra Jones, and guest soloists Mia Edwards, Callum Howells and Jodi Bird, all winners at the Treorchy National Eisteddfod.

The concert raised well over £1,500 for the Prostate Cymru challenge 'Touching The Sun.' This challenge has been taken up by 13 intrepid explorers; led by Andrew Thomas, consultant urologist and co-founder of Prostate Cymru, who aim to climb five volcanoes in Ecuador to raise funds for a Da Vinci robotic facility at the University of Wales Hospital, Cardiff.

This equipment will be used for the treatment of prostate cancer. The party left Cardiff International Airport for Quito in Ecuador, today (Thursday, July 18). The challenge will last for 14 days, during which time the expedition will climb the rugged volcano mountains of Ecuador to get to the nearest point on earth to the sun!

ABOVE:
The three guest soloists – Mia Edwards, Callum Howells and Jodi Bird – were winners at the National Eisteddfod in Treorchy..

ABOVE:
The Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School Choir, with conductor Debra Jones and headteacher Lyn Murray.

ABOVE: Lyn Murray giving a vote of thanks to all concerned.

LEFT: Andrew Thomas, consultant urologist and co-founder of Prostate Cymru, explaining all about Prostate Cymru, the Da Vinci robotic facility, and the 'Touching the Sun' challenge.

BELOW:
Paul Porter with Rhiannon Williams-Hale bring the concert to its conclusion.

ABOVE:
The Bridgend Male Choir, with musical director Rhiannon Williams-Hale.

Cor Meibion take third prize

CÔR Meibion y Machlud are pictured (below) just before they performed at the all-Wales competitive event Gwyl Fawr, on July 6 in Cardigan, where they won third prize.

In the Gwyl Fawr, there are four choir competitions for youth, women, men and mixed choir. The first prizewinner in each then goes toe-to-toe for the 'Choir of the Festival' trophy.

PHOTO by JILL GOUGH

Club Cowbridge

Holiday Play Scheme at Bijou

Monday 5th - Friday 30th August

Den Building • Sport • Singing & Dancing • Arts & Crafts • Play • Day Trips • Lots More!

Club Cowbridge will provide stimulating and fun activities, both indoor and outdoor, in the heart of Cowbridge. So, whether you need childcare while you're working or you just want your child to have the opportunity to meet other children in a fun, safe environment - we're here!

8am - 5.30pm • Monday to Friday
£25.00 - Full Day • £15.00 - Half Day
Ages 8 years+ • Ages 4 - 7 years - Monday only

Includes breakfast, snacks, drinks and lunch - a variety of healthy menu options available.

Club Cowbridge Holiday Play Scheme at Bijou

£10.00 off a full day of fun!

This programme is supported by Vale of Glamorgan, Children & Young People's Partnership, Partnerships Plant a Pledd Fawr

For further details or to book, please call Club Cowbridge:
T: 01446 771190 E: info@bijou.so
W: www.bijou.so/clubcowbridge
c/o Bijou Play Centre, 48a Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7AB

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Children's choices and School's out inspiration…

Get going in Bridgend county this summer with Halo Leisure

SUMMER is finally here and this year Halo Leisure will be making sure that it's one everyone will remember.

Summer is a great time for us all to get active, and anyone with kids will want to keep them busy over the school holidays.

Activities for kids: From July 22 to September 1, we have a huge range of activities for children including swimming, arts, snorkelling, crafts, basketball, circus skills, gymnastics and rugby.

Check www.haloleisure.org.uk for the full timetable. There is also a free crash course of swimming lessons to children not currently on the 'learn to swim' programme, as well as special offers on one-to-one swimming lessons. Call your local pool on 0300 012 1223.

Activities for the family: It can be all too easy to let the kids spend too much time on the sofa over the summer, and while it's great to relax after a long school year, it's also important to make sure they stay active during the holidays.

The longer days are also the perfect time for adults to join in and give something new a try too.

Kids aged five to 16 need to do at least 60 minutes of physical activity that gets their heart beating faster than usual, and they need to do it every day to burn off calories and prevent them storing up excess fat. It's also recommended that adults should make sure they're active for 150 minutes a week.

To mark the one year celebration of the opening ceremony of London 2012 Olympics, Halo is inviting local adults and children to visit their local Halo centre on Saturday, July 27 (Bridgend, Maesteg, Ogmore, Pencoed, Pyle, Ynysawdre) to find out how they can get more active more often.

- See the facilities and find out about the activities on offer.
- Get a complimentary seven-day guest pass so you can sample facilities and activities.
- Get advice and guidance from a fitness professional or swim instructor.
- Enter into a prize draw to win a year's free membership of Halo Leisure.

For more information on what's going on in your area, visit www.haloleisure.org.uk.

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PLAY4LIFE
22nd July – 23rd August
FREE sport, play and arts and craft activities for 8-11 year olds. Available at venues throughout the County Borough including Halo centres at Bridgend, Ogmore, Garw and Maesteg.

TEENAGE FIT HIT
22nd July – 1st September
For a one off payment of £30 11-16 year olds can enjoy the gym, youth group exercise classes, swimming, racket sports.

Visit www.haloleisure.org.uk for a timetable or call your local Halo centre on 0300 012 1223

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Hwyl Haf i blant yn halo Leisure

Llwyth o weithgareddau newydd a ffrindiau newydd

22 Gorffennaf – 1 Medi - i blant hyd at 13 mlwydd oed

Nofio, Snorcela, Water Walkerz, Saethyddiaeth, Pêl Rwyd, Pêl Fasged, Polo Dŵr, Sgiliau Syrcas, Rygbi, Gweithgareddau Awyr Agored, Tennis, Cyfeirianna, Celf a Chrefft, Trampolin, Beicio Grŵp, Plymio, Gymnasteg, Achub Bywyd
.... a llawer iawn mwy

PLAY4LIFE
22 Gorffennaf – 1 Medi
CHWARAEON, gweithgareddau chwarae a chelf a chrefft AM DDIM i blant rhwng 8 ac 11. Ar gael mewn lleoliadau ledled y Fwrdeistref Sirol gan gynnwys canolfannau Halo yn Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Bro Ogwr, Cwm Garw a Maesteg.

FFITRWYDD I'R ARDDEGAU
22 Gorffennaf – 1 Medi
Am un taliad o £30 caiff plant 11 – 16 mlwydd oed fwynhau'r gampfa, dosbarthiadau ymarfer corff grŵp ieuenctid, nofio a chwaraeon raced.

Ewch i www.haloleisure.org.uk i gael amserlen, neu ffonio'ch canolfan Halo leol ar 0300 012 1223

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Gweithio mewn partneriaeth er mwyn pobl Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr

SPORTS NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

SKIERS SHINE IN DRY SLOPE COMPETITION

THE south east Wales schools regional dry slope ski competition took place on a sunny summer evening at Fairwater Ski centre in Cardiff, and two boys' teams and one girl represented Cowbridge Comprehensive with great skill and effort.

Each skier carried out two runs on a slalom course, with the fastest time counting towards individual performance and the fastest times for each skier within the team added together to give a team result.

RESULTS: under-14 boys non-registered – 2nd place, Dylan Lloyd-Doyle; 3rd place, Josh Lloyd Doyle; under-16 boys registered – 1st place, Harry Hopkins; under-16 boys non-registered – 2nd place, Henry Jones; 3rd place, Tom Kynaston; under-18 boys non-registered – 1st place, Ben Jones; 2nd place, Jon Harvey; under-18 girls non-registered – 2nd place, Caitlin Jones; overall girls result non-registered –2nd place, Caitlin Jones; overall boys result non-registered – 1st place, Ben Jones.

Overall boys team result –1st place, Cowbridge A (Ben Jones, Ben Thomas, Harry Hopkins, Henry Jones).

The pupils acquitted themselves really well; it was especially pleasing to see some younger skiers getting involved for the first time.

The boys' ski team who took first place in the Fairwater event.

Sophia wins Welsh Cup

SOPHIA HARPIN and her pony Sky represented Wales in the Junior Home International at Uttoxeter, where the team were runners-up to England, beating Ireland and Scotland.

Sophia was also chosen to represent Wales under-17s in this year's European Mounted Games Championships, hosted by Ireland. They were held at Tattersalls in Dublin, July 8 – 15.

The prestigious event was attended by 16 countries. The competition included individual and team events, with competitors from four age groups competing over four days to find the European Champions for 2013.

Earlier this year, eligible riders were observed by the team trainer and selectors at the David Broome Event Centre, Chepstow to select the Welsh Team. Wales has an outstanding reputation throughout the world for World class games riders. This is a remarkable achievement.

Sophia Harpin

Sports day

THE sun came out for sports day on Friday, July 5 and more than 260 pupils and staff travelled to Jenner Park Athletics Stadium to compete in 12 athletic events.

The competition was excellent; each of the three teams per year group fielded two athletes for each event. Many pupils achieved personal best performances, cheered on by their peers.

The track competition stopped to watch Tom Trotman clear 1.85m in the high jump, and Niamh Galton broke the school year-9 high Jump record of 1.45m held by Annabel Curle with a new height of 1.56m.

The relay races were the highlight of the day, with the year-10 girls coming home in a time of 55.75, a new school record.

Thank you to Mrs Thomas for supporting our pupils and giving them the opportunity to compete in the facilities of Jenner Park. Well done all who took part.

OTHER NEWS

THREE of our pupils took part in the 66th Welsh National Track and Field Championships at Leckwith Stadium on July 6.

Kristian Jones was second in the middle boys 100m with a time of 11.27, and second in the 100m hurdles with a time of 14.40.

Tom Trotman won the middle boys high jump with a clearance of 1.80m and came eighth in the shot put with a throw of 10.33m.

The middle boys team won the team event.

Annabel Curle won the middle girls high jump, clearing 1.60m, also a new school record.

Champion Nicole 'overwhelmed' by Fellowship award

Nicole Cooke. PICTURE by HUW JOHN

OLYMPIC cyclist Nicole Cooke MBE, from Wick (above), was "totally overwhelmed" to receive an honorary Fellowship from Cardiff Metropolitan University, at a graduation ceremony in Wales Millennium Centre.

Nicole, who retired from professional cycling in January, said: "I really was overwhelmed by the whole occasion – the atmosphere inside the WMC was electric and it was a very special experience that will stay with me forever.

"It was a fantastic ceremony and great to also see all the Cardiff Met students officially receiving their degrees – I wish every one of them the very best for their future."

An honorary F ellowship is one of the highest honours that the university can bestow, and is awarded to those who have brought distinction either to the university itself or to the region, Cardiff Metropolitan University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Antony Chapman, said: "The university awarded Nicole this honorary fellowship to show our respect for her outstanding and distinguished service to the community throughout her eminent cycling career."

Nicole (29) enjoyed 13 years success as a professional road bicycle racer, with well-deserved gold medal wins at the Olympics and Word Race Championships in 2008.

She worked closely with Team GB teammates in the 2012 games to get silver medallist Lizzie Armitstead into the best possible position and ensure Britain's place on the podium. Nicole has just finished writing her autobiography, which will be published this autumn.

NEWS FROM WENVOE CASTLE GOLF CLUB

Sun shines on captain's day

CAPTAIN'S DAY at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club has, in recent years, not enjoyed the best of weather conditions.

So, club captain Barrie Jones was relieved and delighted that his special day took place in glorious sunshine, and the club membership played their part, turning out to give full support to the various fundraising events.

All entry fees to the morning Men's 'shotgun' stableford competition were donated to the Captain's nominated charity, Ty Hafan, and several other donations were received from members unable to play on the day.

The winner of the individual stableford was Dan Williams with 41 points winning on countback from Dr Dai Dayananda who also scored 41.

Three players recorded 40 points, with Ian Pearcey taking third place on countback from Rob Picton and Phil Roberts.

The team prize was won by Darren Jeffries, Andrew Miller, Paul Wheatley and Dr Dai Dayananda with an impressive 142 points. John McAree won the nearest the pin competition on the second hole, with his ball finishing just 33 cms from the hole.

VETERAN WINS

The longest drive on the 18th hole was won by 'veteran' Keith Stimpson – fresh from becoming the Glamorgan County Champion the previous week.

The players enjoyed a lunch of hotdogs and onions and then went to the panoramic patio to watch and cheer the 'Captain's Drive' from the nearby 12th tee.

To raise more funds, members were invited to guess the distance the ball travelled using one of three clubs, a 5-iron, a 5-wood or driver – to be selected at random

It turned out to be the 5-iron and, to the obvious relief of the captain, an impressive stroke saw the ball fly some 150 yards up the fairway..

Club member Brian McConkey correctly chose both the club and the distance and he was rewarded with a special prize of a basket of wine.

The real winner was Ty Hafan – receiving several hundred pounds from both events.

The day ended with the presentation of prizes. The Captain thanked the members for their support, together with the bar and catering staff for their excellent service. There was particular praise for the green keepers for presenting the course in such fine condition – especially the immaculate greens which proved to be a major contribution to a successful and rewarding day.

ABOVE:
Winner Dan Williams (on right) receives his prize from club captain Barrie Jones.

ABOVE: Runner-up Dr Dai Dayananda receives his prize.

ABOVE: Ian Pearcey took the third prize.

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YOUNG FOOTBALLERS ON STATESIDE VISIT

The team players with Wales and Everton legend Neville Southall.

A TEAM of young people from the Vale are preparing to travel to the USA to take part in FIFA-regulated football tournaments in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Las Vegas.

The team made up of players (aged 13-14) rom Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and Cowbridge Comprehensive, will be the only team from the UK competing alongside teams from Mexico, USA, Brazil, Africa, the Caribbean and Hawaii.

PG10 Coaching, the organisers, will be linking in with LA Galaxy in Los Angeles and given opportunities to meet the first team players and watch their preparations before their MLS v Dallas FC match.

All the players have gained accredited sport qualifications and also the 'Gold Award of Excellence' for over 200 hours of voluntary activity from the 'Welsh Government Millennium Volunteers' programme as part of the Olympic 2012 legacy. Each player has been presented with a certificate, signed by First Minster Carwyn Jones.

For more information on PG10 Coaching, go to www.pg10coaching.co.uk or follow the USA tour on twitter @petegriffiths10.

Tennis club remembers Val

ON a sunny Saturday afternoon, Dinas Powys Tennis Club was delighted to welcome the nieces of Val Edwards, Sian and Mair, to Saturday teas to thank them for the bench which they and their brother Rhys have donated to the club in Val's memory.

Val was a much-valued member of the club, epitomising all the attributes of successful club membership. A good team player and a ladies club captain in the 70s, Val also helped and attended social activities and, until about three years ago, made lovely cakes for teas at the beginning of the season.

She was rarely without a smile and a laugh, which made her such good company to all who came in contact with her. She is remembered very fondly.

Many of Val's tennis friends and near contemporaries met Sian and Mair to swap stories. They brought the good weather with them and were delighted with the bench, which now sits proudly on the patio for all to enjoy.

Val would have loved the occasion!

NW

ABOVE:
Sian and Mair on the memorial bench.

Barry Wanderers play host to the Charlotte Norman memorial match

TEN years ago, Barry Wanderers stalwart Steve Norman lost his daughter Charlotte after a long illness.

Situated next to Hayes Point and the home of Barry Wanderers is Ty Hafan children's hospice, where Charlotte spent the last months of her life being expertly cared for and supported during her last days.

On such a beautiful, sunny day, it was poignant that Barry Wanderers and Cardiff Casuals should play a game dedicated to the memory of Charlotte. The day was also an opportunity to raise money for Ty Hafan, who provide support for life-limited children and young people, and is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the whole family.

Steve Norman, captain for the day, lost the toss and the Casuals elected to bat in the stifling heat.

In his first over, Sam Harris got Britton flaying at a swinging one and he was well caught for 0 by Lewis Downey at gully. O'Reilly and Mason Willes then bludgeoned the ball to all parts as they set about posting a large total.

Ellis dropped a tough chance before getting revenge by catching one on the boundary off the bowling of Theo Richards. Phil Wolfenden had one of those golden days behind the stumps, taking four catches as he and Morgan ripped through the heart of the Casuals batting line up, Morgan finishing his spell with season best figures of 4-17.

At 99 for 8 the situation looked bleak for the Casuals but in Lewis and Obee they had two men made of sterner stuff. Liam Norman, brother of Steve and making a guest appearance for the Wanderers, came onto bowl at the Ty Hafan end and after initial rustiness soon found his line and length and was unlucky not to take a wicket.

It was left to Harris to wrap up the innings as he bowled Obee for 15 and got last man Stephens for 5, caught by Wolfenden down the leg side. With a ninth wicket partnership of 59, the Casuals ended up on a very respectable 168 all out, with the pick of the bowlers being the evergreen Dave Morgan.

With everyone rehydrating, it was time for the Wanderers to see if they could continue with their fine form on a Sunday. Steve Norman opened the batting and looked comfortable at the crease.

Unfortunately, Blundell (9), Hill (0) and Wolfenden (15) were unable to stay for any length of time. Dave Stealey, looking resplendent in baggy green, was wielding his willow with magnificent effect as he creamed the ball to the boundary.

It was all going along so well until a ball was hit to mid-wicket and Steve Norman was the victim, out for a sterling 20. Stealey and Ellis looked to continue the run chase and they took the score past 100 before Stealey sliced one to point for 30.

Richards and Wade soon departed leaving the Wanderers tottering on the brink at 128 for 6 and once Ellis was caught and bowled for 21 the game was effectively over.

Young Harris and Downey tried their best but with Stealey umpiring at the hospital end the game was over with the Wanderers finishing on 144 all out, 24 runs short of their target.

It was a great days cricket, played in excellent spirit and the Cardiff Casuals certainly added their personality and respect to the occasion.

For his accurate wibble-wobble spell of 4-17 off 7 overs in the searing heat, the Dow Corning player of the match award goes to Dave Morgan.

Thanks to all those involved in a special day in the Wanderers history; for the tea ladies who provided such a wonderful tea; chairman Chris Barnes for organising the day; Steve Norman and his family for the support; Paul Wade who sponsored the tea; Alun Wade for his help with the Barclays match funding, and to all the supporters and players who came back to the pub and helped raise £816 for Ty Hafan – it's days like these that I'm proud to be a Barry Wanderer.

ME

Premiership stars come to support Barry

THE BLUEBIRDS will be the star attraction on Saturday, July 27, when they visit Jenner Park to give Barry Town a welcome boost.

The Premiership new boys, Cardiff City, will tackle Gavin Chesterfield's Barry Town United in a pre-season friendly.

The special match will form the centrepiece of Barry Town's family fun day – a community event in association with LDS Motor Factors and RIM Motors that will feature live music, a bouncy castle, barbecue, disco and more, in addition to the football.

Tickets for the day, including admission to the match and the other entertainment, are available online at *barry.ticketsource.co.uk* – for the family-friendly prices of £5 and £3 (under-11s).

Last season, Cardiff City brought a team to Jenner Park for a sell-out match that included a string of full internationals and first team faces, and another strong side is expected

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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

VARIOUS ROADS, CARDIFF AIRPORT

(VARIOUS PROHIBITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS)

(ANTI-TERRORISM) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2013

1. On the 11th July 2013 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 14(1) and 22C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedules below.

2. The Order will come into operation on the 30th July 2013 and a copy of the Order may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

3. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 30th July 2013 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

Except as provided by this Order:

No person shall proceed on foot or cause or permit any vehicle or cycle to proceed, stop or wait at any time, in the location specified within the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE

Location	All roads between the roundabout where the airport access road meets the A4226/B4265 and the junctions where the two airport access roads meet Port Road.
Reason	These prohibitions, restrictions and limitations are made for the purpose of avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the roads; avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism or for a purpose relating to danger or damage connected with terrorism (as defined in Section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000).
Duration	From 18.01 hours on 30th July 2013 for a maximum period of 18 Months.
Alt. Route	The diversions for south east bound traffic will be from the roundabout adjacent to the Aircraft Maintenance Facility, then in a south easterly direction along the A4226 to the roundabout at the junction with Port Road then in a south westerly direction along Port Road, to the Airport and vice-versa.

Dated this 18th day of July 2013

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

AMRYWIOL FFYRDD, MAES AWYR CAERDYDD

(AMRYWIOL WAHARDDIADAU A CHYFYNGIADAU AR SYMUDIADAU GAN GERBYDAU A CHERDDWYR)

GORCHYMYN (GWRTHDERFYSGAETH) (DROS DRO) 2013

1. Ar 11 Gorffennaf 2013 gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau o dan Adrannau 14(1) a 22C o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, Orchymyn gyda'r effaith gyffredinol a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodlenni isod.

2. Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 30 Gorffennaf 2013 a bydd copi o'r Gorchymyn i'w weld yn y cyfeiriad a ddangosir isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

3. Os hoffech gwestiynu dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau oddi mewn iddo ar y sail nad ydynt o fewn y pwerau a roddwyd yn y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail na chafwyd cydymffurfiaeth yn achos unrhyw ofynion o'i eiddo neu unrhyw offeryn yn ddarostyngedig iddo mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, cewch o fewn chwech wythnos o 30 Gorffennaf 2013 wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r perwyl hwn.

Heblaw fel y darperir gan y Gorchymyn hwn:

Ni chaniateir i unrhyw berson fynd ar droed neu beri neu ganiatáu i unrhyw gerbyd neu feic i fynd, stopio neu aros ar unrhyw adeg, yn y lleoliad a enwir o fewn yr Atodlen isod.

ATOLDEN

Lleoliad	Pob ffordd rhwng y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu ffordd fynediad y maes awyr â'r A4226/B4265 a'r cyffyrdd sy'n cysylltu dwy ffordd fynediad y maes awyr â Port Road.
Rheswm	Bwriad y gwaharddiadau a'r cyfyngiadau yma yw i osgoi perygl i unigolion neu draffig arall sy'n defnyddio'r ffyrdd; gan osgoi, leihau, neu leihau'r tebygoliaeth o'r perygl a gysylltir â therfysgaeth neu o fwriad yn gysylltiedig â pherygl neu ddifrod sy'n gysylltiedig â therfysgaeth (yn ôl y diffiniad yn Adran 1 o Ddeddf Derfysgaeth 2000).
Hyd	O 18.01 ar 30 Gorffennaf 2013 am fwyafswm cyfnod o 18 mis.
Llwybr Amgen	Bydd gwyriadau ar gyfer traffig i gyfeiriad y de ddwyrain yn dechrau ar y gylchfan ger y Ganolfan Cynnal a Chadw Awyrennau, yna mewn cyfeiriad de ddwyreiniol ar hyd yr A4226 hyd at y gylchfan ar y gyffordd gyda Port Road ac yna mewn cyfeiriad de orllewinol ar hyd Port Road, i'r Maes Awyr, ac i'r gwrthwyneb.

Dyddiedig y 18 dydd o Gorffennaf 2013

M. E. Punter,
Dyddledig Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

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Swn y Mor, Barry - £198,950
Two bedroom semi detached bungalow. Cul de sac location on sought after Garden Suburb. Hallway, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, conservatory, bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Gardens to front and rear. Driveway providing parking for numerous vehicles. Single garage with power and lighting. Close to country park and beaches.

Bell Street, Barry - £115,000
Two bedroom traditional mid terrace. West End of Barry. Occasional room/office accessed via bedroom two. Hallway, lounge/dining room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Romilly school catchment area. Close proximity to shops, park and train station. Ideal starter home or investment property.

Waters Edge, Barry - £195,000
Two bedroom 1st floor apartment in exclusive area of The Knap. Views of Bristol Channel. Open plan lounge/dining room, fitted kitchen with 'Smeg' appliances. Family bathroom and en suite shower room. Double glazing, gas CH. Balcony with views across pebble beach. Video door entry system and intruder alarm. Elevator. Gated allocated parking.

St Pauls Avenue, Barry - £129,950
Three bedroom mid link property. West End of Barry. Porch, hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen. Bathroom to 1st floor. upvc DG. Electric heating. Close to English and Welsh primary schools, High Street shops and Barry train station with links to Bridgend and Cardiff. Offered for sale with no chain.

Hill Street, Barry - £119,950
Three bedroom Traditional end terrace property. Situated in the East End of Barry. Porch, hallway, lounge/dining room. Kitchen. Downstairs bathroom. Gas CH, upvc double glazed windows. Enclosed courtyard to rear. Forecourt to front. Short distance to town centre. Close to local amenities

Rheidol Drive, Barry - £249,950
Extended four bedroom detached property. On popular Cwm Talwg development, West End of Barry. Porch, hallway, lounge/dining room, sitting room, kitchen. 1st floor bathroom and shower room. upvc DG. Gas CH. Front and rear gardens. Driveways to front and rear. Detached garage. Solar panels with savings of approx. £1,500 pa.

Heol Peartree, Rhoose - £325,000
Five bedroom detached residence. Partial views across Bristol Channel. Entrance hallway, lounge, dining room, conservatory, office, kitchen/ breakfast/family room. Utility room, cloakroom. Family bathroom and two en suites. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Double driveway. Double garage. Viewing highly recommended.

Porth y Castell, Barry - £239,950
Extended four double bedroom semi detached. On sought after Garden Suburb in West End of Barry. Hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. Downstais wc. 1st floor shower room. Gas CH, upvc DG. Enclosed rear garden. Driveway providing parking to integral garage. Close to park, shops and train station. No chain.

Brookfield, Penmark - £429,950
Set within conservation area. Four bedroom detached in exclusive rural village. Beautiful views across open countryside. Open porch, hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room with utility area. Cloakroom. Two en suite shower rooms. Family bathroom. Oil fired CH. DG. Enclosed, terraced rear garden. Driveway with off road parking for 6/7 vehicles. Viewing essential.

Y Cerigos, Barry - £249,950
Two double bedroom, ground floor apartment. On edge of The Knap Gardens and pebble beach. Security video entry. Gated community in block of four. Communal hallway, entrance hallway, open plan lounge/dining room/kitchen. Ensuite shower room and family bathroom. DG. Heating/air con system. Balcony accessed via living and dining areas. Two allocated parking spaces.

Fontygary Road, Rhoose - £295,000
Three bedroom detached bungalow. On generous plot in village of Rhoose. Porch, hallway, inner hallway, lounge, dining room, conservatory, office. Modern fitted kitchen and utility room. Family bathroom and en suite shower room to master bedroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed large front and rear gardens. Double detached garage. Viewing recommended.

Porthkerry Road, Barry - £169,950
Traditional three bedroom, four storey property with views across the waterfront. Porch, hallway and two bedrooms to ground floor. Master bedroom and bathroom to 1st floor. Lounge, kitchen and 2nd bathroom to lower ground floor. Loft room. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Close to local shops and Barry train station. Property offers flexible living. Offers invited.

Gladstone Road, Barry - £210,000
Traditional four double bedroom semi detached. Panoramic views. Porch, hallway, lounge, sitting room. Family room, modern fitted kitchen. Master bedroom with en suite and built-in storage. Three further double bedrooms, two benefiting from built-in storage. Bathroom. upvc double glazing. Gas CH via combi. Enclosed rear garden. Hard standing for use as parking.

Barry Road, Barry - £189,950
Detached three bedroom cottage. East end of Barry. Entrance porch, lounge/dining room with feature log burner. Kitchen/breakfast room. upvc DG conservatory. Utility room. Downstairs modern bathroom with separate shower cubicle. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed gardens to front and rear. Off road parking for 2/3 vehicles. Vendor has carried out extensive works over last 4 years. EPC: E

St James Crescent, Barry - £299,950
Executive four bedroomd detached. Situated in cul de sac. West end of Barry. Views over farmland and countryside. Hallway, lounge, dining room, study, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room. Utility room. Downstairs wc. Family bathroom. Ensuite bathroom .upvc DG. Gas CH. Rear garden with summer house. Driveway. Integral single garage with remote control door. Offers invited. EPC: D/D

Beryl Road, Barry - £122,500
Two bedroom mid terrace. Entrance hallway, lounge/dining room. Fitted kitchen, family room, conservatory. Two bedrooms, bathroom, shower room and separate wc to 1st floor. Gas CH. upvc DG. Enclosed rear garden. Property is on footprint of a three bedroom. Walking distance Gladstone Park , Holton Road shops. Close to Barry Dock train station. EPC:D

Dros-y-Mor, Somerset Road West, Barry - £249,950
Three/Four double bedroom detached dormer bungalow. Panoramic views. Porch, outer hall, entrance hallway, cloakroom, lounge/bedroom 4. Bedroom 1. Sitting room, dining room, kitchen, utility and storage to ground floor. Two bedrooms and bathroom to 1st floor. Gas CH. Enclosed gardens. Driveway leading to carport and garage.

St Osyth Court, Barry - £148,500
Two double bedroom semi detached bungalow. West End of Barry. Panoramic views. hallway, lounge, kitchen, two double bedrooms, bathroom, separate wc. Enclosed patio area. Small enclosed garden to side. upvc DG. Gas CH. Walking distance to Romilly Park, The Knap Gardens, lakeside cafes and pebble beach. Close proximity to Barry train station.

Court Road, Barry - £134,950
Traditional end terrace, three double bedroom bay fronted. Porch, hallway, lounge/sitting room. Newly installed modern kitchen/dining room. Family bathroom and en suite shower room to bedroom 2. Loft room. upvc DG. Gas CH via combi. Enclosed rear courtyard and forecourt to front. Close to primary school, bus stop and shops. No chain.

Holton Road, Barry - £99,950
A rare opportunity to purchase a commercial unit with good living accommodation above in a central location towards the east end of Holton Road. Ground floor shop unit with security roller shutter door. Lounge and kitchen to ground floor. Three bedrooms and bathroom to 1st floor. Gas CH via combi. upvc DG. Enclosed rear garden. Walking distance of bus routes.

Clos Mancheldowne, Barry - £125,000
Modern two bedroom mid link, situated on the Waterfront development. Lounge, kitchen/diner. Bathroom to 1st floor. DG and gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Driveway for two behicles. Walking distance to supermarket and shopping complex, Barry station with links to Penarth, Cardiff and Bridgend. Offered for sale with no chain. EPC: C

St Pauls Avenue, Barry - £149,950
Traditional bay fronted, three bedroom end terrace property. West End of Barry. Porch, hallway, lounge through sitting room, dining room, kitchen. Downstairs wc, Bathroom, three bedrooms and office/nursery/dressing room to 1st floor. Gas CH, upvc DG. Enclosed rear garden. Single garage. Walking distance of schools, shops, train station. EPC: E

The Heathers, Barry - £159,950
Four bedroom detached, situated off Claude Road, West End of Barry. Entrance hallway, lounge, dining room through to kitchen. Conservatory, Downstairs wc. Family bathroom. upvc DG, Gas CH. Low maintenance rear garden. Driveway with off road parking. Integral garage. Close to schools, college and bus routes. Easy access to M4 corridor. EPC: C/D

Glynbridge Close, Barry - £159,950
Three bedroom detached bungalow. Cul de sac location in North of Barry. Porch, hallway, lounge/diner, kitchen, shower room. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Low maintenance front garden. Driveway providing off road parking for two vehicles. Integral garage. Close to local amenities. Offered for sale with no chain. EPC: C

Colcot Road, Barry - £160,000
Three bedroom semi detached. Lounge, family room/dining room, fitted kitchen with range cooker to remain. Conservatory. Ground floor wc. Ensuite to master bedroom. Family bathroom with jacuzzi bath.Enclosed rear garden. Gas CH, upvc DG. Driveway providing parking for 2/3 vehicles. Double garage. Offered for sale with no chain. EPC: C

Windsor Road, Barry - £184,950
Six bedroom, three storey mid terrace situated in the West End of Barry. Hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom. Two en suite bathrooms. Enclosed rear garden. Good investment potential or could be converted back to family home. Minutes walking of School, shops, Barry train station. In close proximity to Romilly Park and beaches EPC: E/E

Davlan, Claude Road, Barry - £209,950
First time on the market - This three bedroom semi , set on generous plot. Entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen/dining room. Bedroom three could be used as additional reception room benefiting independent access. Summer room, upvc DG. Gas CH. Single garage and driveway. Gardens to front and rear. Close to local amenities. No chain. EPC: C

The Parade, Barry - £289,995
Traditional three bedroom semi detached with views over the Knap Gardens and Bristol Channel. Porch, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility area. Two bathrooms. Driveway. Garage. Gardens to front and rear. Gas CH. Wood DG sash style windows. Walking distance of The Old Harbour, The Knap, Romilly Park Cafes, bus stop and train station. EPC: C

Elmhurst, Porthkerry Park, Barry - £495,000
Originally constructed as a primary school in the late 19th century and sympathetically converted to modern living.Porch, family room, lounge, kitchen, dining room. Ground floor family bathroom. Three bedrooms, study/cot room and wc to the 1st floor. Enclosed gardens . Swimming pool (in need of repair). Garage/workshop. No chain. EPC: E

Gladstone Road, Central Barry - £145,950
Three bedroom bay fronted, mid terrace property, situated in the heart of Barry. upvc double glazing. Gas central heating. Enclosed rear garden. Garage. Minutes walking distance to town centre, leisure centre, park and Gladstone School. Close to barry Docks train station. EPC: D

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£133,950 D61

St Johns View, St Athan
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Wimbourne Close, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
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Sea View Place, Llantwit Major
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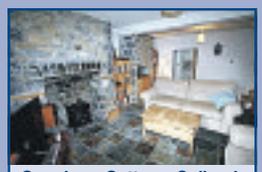

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D63 - £475 pcm
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Chestnut Avenue, St Athan
E49 - £525 pcm
Two Bedrooms End Link

Mallory Close, St Athan
D58 - £495 pcm
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Murlande Way, St Rhoose
D62 - £550 pcm
Semi Detached, Two Bedroom

Evans Street, Barry
D63 - £550 pcm
Two Bedrooms, First Floor Bathroom, Enclosed Rear Garden

Spring Street, Barry
E42 - £550 pcm
Two Bedroom, Lounge, Dining room, Enclosed Garden

Howard Court, Barry
D63 - £550 pcm
First Floor Flat, Two Bedrooms

Scott Close, St Athan
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Family Notices

DOREEN GRACE JONES

Peacefully after a very long illness, Doreen Grace Jones of Pontypridd Road, Barry passed away aged 91 on 14th July 2013. She leaves a daughter Ruth, son Geoffrey, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Following her wishes, her body has been passed to Cardiff School of Bio-Sciences (University Hospital). Donations, in lieu of flowers, may be made to Save the Children Fund, c/o Mrs Ruth Ridge, The Orchard, Perriswood, Penmaen, Swansea, SA3 2HN.

MAY
Donald E J

Peacefully on July 9 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, after a long illness bravely borne, Don of St Athan. Loving father of Phillip, will be sorely missed by Jenny.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday July 22, service 11am at St Athan Church followed by interment in St Athan Cemetery. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to RSPCA or Ty Hafan Childrens Hospice Wales, both c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

DAVIES
Glenys

Peacefully on July 10th at Holme Tower, Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth, Glenys from Llantwit Major, much loved wife of Alan and mother of Peter and the late Sally. Adored grandma of Owen and Gareth. Glenys' wonderful sense of humour and fun will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral Service on Tuesday, July 23rd at St Illtyd's Church, Llantwit Major at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Marie Curie, Holmes Towers c/o Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

WAKEFIELD
Phillip Charles

Peacefully slipped away on 13th July 2013, Phillip of Llantwit Major after a short fight with cancer. Treasured husband of Liz and a devoted father to Colin, David, Emma and Elaine. He was a loving granddad and will be sadly missed.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major until the Funeral on Tuesday 23rd July 2013 in Coychurch Crematorium at 2.45pm. Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home or donations may be made to Marie Curie Cancer Care (cheques only please).

HENDERSON
Barbara Rose

Peacefully on 13th July at Milsom House, St Athan, Barbara Rose, aged 95 years of Llantwit Major. A loved wife of James Alfred, dearly loved mother of Christine and the late David. Cherished grand-mother of David, Sian, Samantha, Emma, James and great grandmother to all her great grandchildren. Barbara will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the Funeral on Tuesday, 23rd July 2013. Funeral Service at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 12 noon, where family and friends please meet.

Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the Funeral Director after the Funeral for Headway (Brain Injury), Headway House, Rookwood Hospital, Fairwater Road, Cardiff, CF5 2YN.

THOMAS
Rhodri

Andrew, Helen, Elwyn, Morgan, Evan and family, have been overwhelmed by everyones kindness and support following Rhodri's tragic death.

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Birthdays

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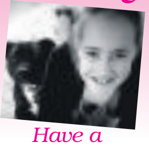
EVIE LOUISE
on **24th July 2013**
Have a wonderful Birthday,
all our love
Nannie & Grandad Vincent
xxxx

Happy 13th Birthday
to our gorgeous daughter
Arian Webb
on 24th July



Have a fantastic day. with lots of love from ***Mum, Dad & all the family*** *xxx*

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Dyddiedig 18 Gorffennaf 2013

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu
Swyddfeydd y Doc, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, CF63 4RT

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY NO 31 & PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 32 LLANBLETHIAN) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2012

On the 7th June 2013 the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order, made under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the public footpath as shown on the Order map.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the address below from 9:00am to 4:00pm on weekdays from 18th July 2013 until 29th August 2013. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on the 18th July 2013, but if any person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Notice is first published make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 18th July 2013

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Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

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The Sun shines on Brynhill lady golfers

ABOVE: Julie Harkin, Audrey Phillips, Jo Kirkpatrick and Rose Pitman.

ABOVE: Members had a great time at the ladies' captain's day.

BRYNHILL ladies' section continues to enjoy a very successful season, as the sunny weather has resulted in all competitions being well supported.

Results for the club competitions as follows: June 11, John Lowden Cup, Golf Foundation Brooch and GUW bronze medal – winner, Alma Sheppard, 66 nett; GUW silver medal – winner, Jan Robertson,75 nett.

June 18, Ladies captain's prize followed by a presentation in the evening – bronze winner, Brenda Chick; silver winner, Linda Hewlett.

Thank you to the ladies' captain, Mrs Julie Harkin for the beautiful prizes.

June 25, Peggy Lane Cup – winner, Helene Cook, nett 71; GUW silver medal – winner, Helene Cook; GUW bronze medal – winner, Carole Bumford.

July 2, Jo Whitehouse Cup – winner, Liz Taylor; Grans Trophy – winner, Judy Davies.

Ladies' open day

THIS event was enjoyed by over 60 ladies, who visited Brynhill.

There were visitors from St Mary Hill, Pontnewydd, Newport, Maesteg and St Athan to name but a few, and the sun shone and the course looked fantastic, thanks to Iain Grant and his ground staff.

Once again the ladies captain and the ladies of Brynhill would like to thank all those who supported the event; congratulations to the worthy prize winners.

The event was played as a team event with three players in each team.

Winners from Pontnewydd were Claire Bartlett, Jan Breddy and Jackie Quigley, 88 pts; in second place from St Mary Hill were Celia Thomas, Rosalie Clode and Kay Harcombe, 80 pts (41 back 9); in third place from Brynhill were Jo Kirkpatrick, Audrey Phillips and Rose Pitman; 80 points (40 back 9).

Longest drive, Chris Thomas from Pontnewydd.

Once again, thank you to the ladies captain, Mrs. Julie Harkin who, with her committee, organised a wonderful day and a special thank you to Julie for the lovely prizes.

Also a special thank you to John Kirkpatrick who was the starter on the first tee for many hours; his time was greatly appreciated.

AP

The ladies' captain Julie Harkin.

ABOVE: The ladies' captain's winners.

Holton Road look for players

HOLTON ROAD under-13s are looking for new players.

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SW

Barrivale results

LATEST results from Barrivale, July 2:

First, Mick Green and Noelle Bond, 69.05 per cent; second, Sam Fellows and Sean Macdougall, 58.93; third,Tom Kendrick and Dave Thomas 55.21. Sam and Sean won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale, if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Results from Barrivale from July 9 were:

1st Mark Roderick & Mike Close 57.08 per cent; 2nd Diana Kendrick & Cynthia Luen 55.42; 3rd Denis Mottram & Ken Hannah 53.75.

Diana and Cynthia won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale, if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road , Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. **Mike Bond**

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Day's celebrates anniversary with rebranding of branch

ADVERTISING PROMOTION

TEN years after the opening of Day's Trade Centre in Cardiff, the Swansea-based motor group is rebranding its Cardiff branch as Day's Motor Park.

This has been timed to coincide with the company's 87th anniversary. To implement the strategic plan put in place by the rebranding, Day's management has appointed Cardiff-born Lee Blackmore to the post of sales manager.

It will be his job to stimulate sales and develop the company's online and digital presence.

He said: "In Cardiff, we are just rebranding and not changing our operation, which has done so well over the last 10-years.

"We would like people to come here, see the investment made and the improvements we have undertaken to promote the name of Day's Motor Park in south-east Wales.

"In Swansea, the Day's name has been synonymous with the Ford marque for decades, and our mission is to tell customers and potential customers that we are here, developing the site and expanding the facilities we offer."

As an auto dealer, Day's has a pedigree that reaches back to 1926. During this time, the company has established centres in both Cardiff and Llanelli.

Mr Blackmore explained: "This rebranding has been done to bring our Cardiff operation in line with the rest of the group. Swansea remains Day's Motor Park Swansea and Day's Motor Park Llanelli was launched two months ago."

The Hadfield Road site in Cardiff, which can accommodate 130 cars, is currently shared with Day's Car Rental.

Over the years, the rental facilities have meant Day's has built up a large customer base in the corporate market for hired vehicles.

In addition to its sales and rental services, Day's can offer customers immediate access to a stock of 10,000 vehicles, which includes both new and used vehicles.

"Our speciality here at Day's Motor Park, Hadfield Road, is the nearly-new range," Mr Blackmore said.

"That's not to say we don't offer other makes, we do, but 70% of our stock is Ford and because of the nearly-new aspect of the business, cars here are always competitively price-matched. This means that within the AutoTrader and other internet search engines, Day's regularly appears at the top when it comes to the lowest prices in this region and customers travel hundreds of miles to purchase a car from us."

Because it is branded Day's Trade Centre, the implication is that it deals solely with competitively-priced vehicles prepared to the highest standard.

Commenting on this Mr Blackmore said: "We are a traditional dealer with traditional services offering part exchange, extended warranties, various finance options, vehicle accessories and an on-site car park for customer convenience."

Students gather for Vale's biggest touchtennis event

SOME 70 young players from across the Vale of Glamorgan took part in Wales's biggest touchtennis event so far.

Competitors from Barry Comprehensive, Bryn Hafren, Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, Stanwell and St Cyres joined others from host school St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School in Barry.

Two hours of round-robin competition led to a final between Barry Comprehensive and Stanwell. Some excellent rallies and competitive play eventually saw a narrow victory for Stanwell.

The winners and runners-up received the prize of a new racquet.

Organiser Ben Coates said: "Bringing all the schools together to compete in one afternoon at this up-and-coming sport was fantastic.

"Credit has to go to the players who all got into the spirit of the competition and played through the weather.

"Big thanks go to the players, 5x60 officers and teachers who made the event possible."

Touchtennis is an exciting adaptation of the traditional game using a smaller court and sponge ball which can be played by anyone almost anywhere.

To find out more about touchtennis and all aspects of tennis in Wales, contact Tennis Wales at www.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Wales or call 029 20 463335.

PETANQUE FINALS HELD IN PENARTH

ON Sunday, July 7, the Penarth Pétanque Club hosted the 2013 Welsh Pétanque Association National Singles championship, where 16 players assembled at the playing pistes of the Kymin Garden in Penarth and were all pleased to see the blazing sun shining.

In the afternoon, the knock-out stage of the competitions started with the quarter-finals. In the main competition Jean-Yves Robic (Penarth PC) beat Gemma Foster (Wheatsheaf PC), Geaf Jones (Penarth PC) beat Richard Harris (Caerleon PC), John Price (Caerleon PC) beat Ian Williams (Penarth PC) and Jake Caston (Wheatsheaf PC) beat John Prosser (Abergavenny PC) to secure their place in the semi-finals.

In the plate, after an equally good series of games, Tansy Mayfield (Caerleon PC), Peter McCarthy (Abergavenny PC), Kon Tomczyk (PC) and Rhys Lawrence (Penarth PC), the only junior in the event, booked their place in the plate semi-finals.

All semi-finals were played in the shade on the lower pistes of the Kymin and all games were fiercely competed. In the main, Jean-Yves Robic (Penarth PC) could not repeat his win against Jake Caston (Wheatsheaf PC) and narrowly conceded the first place in the final 12-13. The second semi-final saw John Price (Caerleon PC) beat the last Penarth PC representative, Geoff Jones 13-5 to secure an all Gwent final.

The plate competition saw Rhys Lawrence (Penarth PC) conceding a sharp 3-13 defeat to Kon Tomczyk (Caerleon PC), and Peter McCarthy (Abergavenny PC) take the best over Tansy Mayfield (Caerleon PC) 13-5.

The final for the title between John Price and Jake Caston was off high calibre but despite building up a good early lead, John Price could not stop a very good come back from veteran player Jake Caston (Wheatsheaf PC) who finally took the 2013 National Singles title 13-8.

The plate final was also a very good game and Peter McCarthy (Abergavenny PC) took control of the games in the early stage and remained strong to deny Kon Tomczyk the victory 13-10 despite an excellent comeback. **J-YR**

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GEM sport

Cowbridge Second XI wilts under a blazing sun!

WITH temperatures soaring and under bright blue skies, Cowbridge Second XI faced Dafen CC at the Athletic Ground last Saturday.

Having lost the toss, Cowbridge feared the worst expecting to have to field first on an excellent wicket with the sun beating down.

However, surprisingly, Dafen decided to bowl first.

The Cowbridge openers, John Brazier and Liam Sullivan, started brightly when John was bowled having played on to his stumps.

This brought the captain to the crease which unfortunately didn't stop the wickets falling as Liam was then out, followed shortly afterwards by Sean Rowland, leaving Cowbridge teetering on 27 for 3 off 14 overs.

A period of consolidation was needed and this was provided through a partnership between Jonty Webb and Josh Basey.

Under some very hostile and accurate bowling, in particular from the Dafen opening bowler; A. Herbet, both Josh and Jonty began to raise the score.

Both batsmen knew that it was imperative to see off the Dafen opening bowlers and therefore both played within themselves avoiding taking any risks.

As a result Cowbridge only reached 50 in the 30th over. But despite the slow going, the Cowbridge batsmen were hopeful that there would be more opportunities once the Dafen opening pair were taken off.

This was indeed to be the case, as upon their departure both Jonty and Josh began to increase the run rate.

Josh was finally out for a well made 43 which brought Jon Wilks to the crease who immediately took up the baton of keeping the run rate up, as he despatched the ball to all parts of the ground.

Jon was assisted by Jonty Webb who also began to find the boundaries as well.

In the end, Cowbridge were able to post a respectable score of 175 off their 50 overs with Jon finishing on 24 not out and Jonty Webb 67 not out.

This had been a hot and tiring time for both batsmen and bowlers alike and Cowbridge knew that they would have to field and bowl well to stand any chance of victory.

With the sun still shining the Dafen openers set about the task of overhauling the Cowbridge total with considerable gusto, despite some good bowling from both Jon Wilks and Sean Rowland.

Dafen had raced to 56 for 0 off 13 overs when some brilliant fielding from Josh Basey resulted in a run out that saw one of the Dafen openers depart for 36.

This brought the Dafen captain, R. Jones, to the crease who proceeded to then build a sizeable partnership with his partner which dented any optimism Cowbridge may have had resulting from the run out.

Try as they might, Cowbridge were unable to get a wicket.

Guy Parker again bowled very well, ably supported by Zac Summer-Hayes and Joe Russell; who bowled particularly well at the end of the innings.

Unfortunately, although the bowling on the whole was good there was always that one bad ball that allowed for any pressure that had been created to be released.

In the end, a wicket finally came with Jack Griffiths, who bowled very well, having the Dafen captain, who was well set, sharply caught in the covers by Guy Parker.

This though was only small crumb of comfort to Cowbridge as Dafen were still able to reach the total of 175 in the 43rd over.

Yet another defeat for Cowbridge Second XI but there was still some positives to take from the game.

The application from the likes of Zac Summer-Hayes, Joe Russel and Jack Griffiths – all younger members of the side – was very pleasing to see.

These younger players, along with Sean Rowland, are the future of the club and the exposure to this level cricket will only stand them in good stead for the future.

JW

BROTHERS WIN GOLD MEDALS

ABOVE: Evan, Cathy and Lloyd Kennedy with their medals.

RECENTLY, two brothers from Llanharan, Lloyd Kennedy (10) and Evan Kennedy (8) won three gold medals between them in the Tang Soo Do Federation open championships held at the National Indoor Athletic Centre in Cardiff.

The championships are held every year in Cardiff and attract over 1000 competitors from clubs all over the world.

Demonstrating years of hard work and dedication, Lloyd won two gold medals for traditional and weapons forms; Evan won gold for his traditional form, while their mum, Cathy, won silver for traditional form.

Tang Soo Do first became know as a recognised martial art in Korea in 1945 and since then has spread around the globe with children and adults alike enjoying the combination of hard and soft flowing movements this art enjoys.

For information on Tang Soo Do, contact Master Wayne Humphries wayne.humphries1@gmail.com; 07857 600641, or visit www.ttfuk.co.uk.

Southerndown ladies retain Welsh title

The Southerndown Golf Club ladies team are still celebrating after their recent win in the Welsh Team Championships at Cardigan Golf Club.

The team were the defending champions, and has been strengthened in recent years, attracting top young golfers from across south Wales.

Local girl, 23-year-old Amy Rees of Bridgend, already seven times the club champion, has been at the heart of the team, together with Alaitz Zubikarai, also of Bridgend.

They have been joined more recently by Welsh internationals Miriam Hassan from Newport and the Lewis sisters, Rachel and Georgia, from Llanishen.

To reach the final Southerndown had to beat Fairwood Park, Cottrell Park, Wrexham, Aberdovey – and eventually Newport in the final.

This was an exciting match played in testing conditions against a very strong Newport team. However, Southerndown held their nerve to retain the trophy.

The team captain, Norma Barber, who is a past captain and long-standing member of the club, says that she is immensely proud of the girls and what they have achieved.

The unique playing conditions at Southerndown provide a real challenge for golfers of all abilities. Its geographical position on the downs over the Ogmore estuary also ensures that it is open 52 weeks every year.

More than 50 golfers from other south Wales clubs who live more than 10 miles away have joined Southerndown's successful 'Second Club' membership scheme.

A club spokesman said that full memberships are still available, and lessons can be booked from club professional and top Welsh coach, John Peters.

On the female side, professional Lydia Hall is a member of the LET Ladies Tour (attached to Southerndown) and is supporting the initiative to introduce more ladies to golf.

She will be competing on the ladies tour during the week the club is running a taster session but had this to say: "I think this is a great scheme and I am happy to support any initiatives that encourage women to take up our sport.

"I know the ladies will enjoy the taster session which is being run by my life time coach John Peters. I look forward to seeing more ladies practicing and enjoying playing the game of golf at my home club."

ABOVE: Southerndown ladies golf team – Welsh champions two years running.

Cowbridge lady bowlers secure a fine win out of sun...under umbrellas!

COWBRIDGE lady bowlers only played a CCS match this week, as they had a bye in the league.

The match was at home against ladies from the Prince of Wales, Porthcawl, which they won by 70-35 shots, achieving a big score of 31-4 on the rink with skip Anne Jarvis, Shirley Wilkinson, Phyllis Price and Janet Morton.

The rink with skip May Jones, Dorothy Pritchard, Diane Purnell and Sue Flower won 19-12.

On the rink with Diane Lloyd, Pat Holdsworth, Jan Lewis and skip Joy Woolford, with the score at 15-15 and with 2 ends to play, the Porthcawl Ladies picked up 4 shots to go into the last end winning 19~15.

The Cowbridge Ladies played well in the last end and picked up 5 shots to win 20~19. This was a good win in a match played using umbrellas to protect the ladies from the hot sun, instead of the rain.

Despite not playing a league match this week, the ladies are still top of the league table, and they are also top in the CCS. Keep up the good play, girls!

Men's team

The men went to Barry Central for their Munro Cup Match, only just losing 66-74.

We had a good win on the rink with Clive Pritchard, Guy Morton, Norman Wilkinson and skip Alan Wallace by 23-14.

On skip John Trott's rink with Gerry Lloyd, Len Taylor and Byron Richards, they just won on the last end, 17-16.

Skip Dennis Snelling's rink with Terry Dunsworth, Gerwyn Watkins, and Peter Launder only lost by 2 shots 14-16, but on skip Steve Dicken's rink with Ron Frayling, Ron Woolford and Colin Wilson, they lost 12-28.

In the league match away to Llantrisant, we had a big loss of 47 shots -117, losing on all four rinks.

Skip Norman Wilkinson's rink had the biggest loss, 7-36. Skip Peter Launder's rink lost 13-30; skip Dennis Snelling's rink lost 13-28, and in the closest game, skip Roger Barwick's rink lost 14-23.

The next league match is at home to Sengenydd.

NJW

Huskies are on the lookout for talent

BARRY Huskies Basketball Club is looking for boys and girls, aged 12 to 18, who are interested in playing basketball.

Following on from a very successful year for three junior and three senior teams, the Huskies are in the process of summer training and all levels are welcome to come along and join in

Barry Huskies train at Holm View Leisure Centre, Skomer Road, on Sundays. The 9am to 11pm session is for 12–14-year-olds, and the 11am–1pm session is for 14-18 age group.

On Friday evenings, 6pm–9pm, there is under-18 advanced training

Anyone interested should contact Aidy on 07999 33 1160 or Ian on 07967 56 2392 or look on the website *barryhuskies.net*

Cowbridge Tennis Club

Whether you're an experienced player, new to tennis or a rusty racket, Cowbridge Tennis Club has something for you.

- *4 all weather courts*
- *Cardio tennis*
- *No joining fee*
- *Xpress tennis*
- *Competitive teams*
- *Social tennis*

Visit our website, **cltc.webs.com**

Edward's ace wins him a brand new timepiece

A 77-YEAR-OLD local golfer has received a limited-edition BOSS watch after scoring a hole-in-one during a recent competition at his club.

Edward Miller scored his ace on the 191-yard, par-three seventh at his club, Southerndown, and the 15-handicapper was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1 Club – and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

The company has pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition between April 15 and October 31 this year.

The scheme is open to any golfer whose club uses HowDidiDo – a free-to-use, web-based social network for golfers – and anybody playing in official club competitions will be eligible.